

Twenty-Seventh National Convention Socialist Labor Party

MAY 4-7, 1968

Minutes, Reports, Platform, Resolutions, Etc.



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National Executive Committee
Socialist Labor Party
116 Nassau Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201

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CONTENTS

Acceptance Address of Presidential Candidate Henning A. Blomen	5
Acceptance Address of Vice Presidential Candidate George S. Taylor	6
Opening Address of the National Secretary of the SLP	7
Minutes of the Proceedings of the Convention	9
Report of the National Executive Committee to the Convention:	
General Agitation	27
Organizers, 27; Leaflet Distribution, 29; Public Meet- ings, 30; Letters to the Press, 31; Contact Work, 31; SLP Speakers at High Schools, Colleges and Univer- sities, 37; Campus Clubs, 38; Study Classes and Dis- cussion Groups, 38; State and County Fairs, 39; Sundry Activities, 44.	
Radio and Television	45
Ballot Matters	47
State of Organization	50
Party Membership, 50; Sections and Branches, 51.	
Language Federations	53
Bulgarian S.L.F., 53; South Slavonian S.L.F., 56.	
International SLP Activities	59
Special Language Committees, 59; Canada, 59; Aus- tralia, 62; Great Britain, 66.	
Party Press and Literature	66
Weekly People, 66; Self-Service Newsstands, 67.	

Labor News Activities	71
Sales, 71; Pamphlets Printed, 72, Leaflets Printed, 73.	
Party Finances and Funds	73
Interferences and Related Incidents	76
Constitutional Amendments	81
National Campaign, 1968	85
In Memoriam	85
Conclusion	89

APPENDIX

Platform of the Socialist Labor Party	99
Resolution on International Situation and International Socialism	102
Resolution on Urban Crises and Social Reaction	104
Resolution on Economic Organization of the Working Class	107
1968 Vote For SLP Presidential Candidates	110
Past Votes For SLP Presidential Candidates	111



HENNING A. BLOMEN
*Socialist Labor Party Candidate
for President, 1968*

It is with deep feeling that I accept this nomination, fully recognizing not only the honor but also the responsibility that is entailed in carrying out what I believe to be a very important mission. We members of the Socialist Labor Party have labored long and hard and shall continue to do so. Our strength lies in our dedication to the establishment of the Socialist Industrial Republic, and in our program for building that society.

This goal is, in the last analysis, the

dream and hope of mankind across the ages. It is incumbent upon us to rededicate ourselves to the ending of this nightmare of a capitalist system. Our work, coupled with the goading, exploitative, world-endangering efforts of capitalism, *will* arouse the workers to rebel against capitalism; it *will* show them the need to reorganize society for the better.

I thank you.



GEORGE S. TAYLOR

Socialist Labor Party Candidate
for Vice President, 1968

I accept the honor that the delegates of this Socialist Labor Party national convention have bestowed upon me. It was not given to me as another politician on the political scene, but as a representative of an idea, of a program, whose time has most certainly come.

The Socialist Labor Party and its program stand between mankind and disaster. All other political parties and their candidates, either openly or surreptitiously, support capitalism with whatever reform modifications they advocate. So, too, do those who may be critical of capitalism but who do not join with the Socialist Labor Party and support our program of Socialist Industrial Unionism.

It is the Socialist Labor Party against the field. Simply put, the purpose of the Party is to assure to every useful producer the full social value of his toil, an apportionment that none of us en-

joy. When this goal is reached, it will enable mankind, for the first time, to enjoy the bounties of nature that are already there, and that man, through his developing technology, has found ways to make available.

The Socialist Labor Party program outlines the means by which, once Socialism is established, the useful producers can manage their affairs, both at the point of production and in the social relationships of society.

In the election, I am sure, the Party's candidates nationally and locally, and the entire Party organization will work their hardest to replace capitalism with a sane order of society that is based on the program and principles of Karl Marx, Frederick Engels and our own Daniel De Leon.

Thank you for the honor. I accept the responsibility. Thank you.

Opening Address of National Secretary Arnold Petersen at the 27th National Convention, Socialist Labor Party

The Socialist Labor Party convenes once again in national convention under the heavy clouds of war, added to which is the chaos, the all but universal social anarchy threatening the very fabric of organized society, and without a viable civilized society as yet in sight. The United States is conducting a criminal war in far away Vietnam, an unconstitutional war, in flagrant violation of the United States Constitution. Yet no voice has been raised proposing the impeachment of President Johnson for violating the Constitution and his oath to uphold and defend it, as was done just 100 years ago against another President Johnson for an alleged illegal act far less serious than the one of which the current President Johnson is guilty. The fact that he unquestionably violated the Constitution and his oath of office, with the *tacit* consent of Congress, is irrelevant to the question at issue. By its tacit consent and supplying the sinews of war, the Congress has made itself *particeps criminis* in the President's illegal action. Two illegal wrongs do not make one constitutional right. And yet it is a mistake to call the Vietnam war of aggression against a country 10,000 miles from American shores "Johnson's War." For the real war criminal is the capitalist system and its top-plutocracy, without whose unspoken or unwritten orders the President would not

have repudiated his antiwar pledge made in his 1964 campaign. The sum and substance of it all is, in De Leon's crisp phrase, that "Capitalism Means War."

In every aspect of its functions and activities capitalism confirms the Socialist Labor Party's oft proclaimed indictment of it as a criminal system, and the capitalist class as a felon class, awaiting history's judgment and, hopefully, early execution of the judgment. Undeniably, capitalism has been a promoter of progress in having made possible the marvelous technology of today, a technology that, properly applied, would enable mankind to enjoy a warless and crimeless world, in harmony and affluence and mutual cooperation. But this progress has been achieved at a frightful cost in human lives and agonizing misery and wretchedness for the great majority during capitalism's bloody reign. "Capital," wrote Karl Marx, "comes [came into the world] dripping from head to foot, from every pore, with blood and dirt." And, its early demise anticipated, it is leaving it through rivers of blood, and across mountains of the corpses of its victims.

In the course of its criminal depredations capitalism is threatening to reduce the world to a shambles, ruthlessly destroying the wonderful gifts of nature

to mankind, laying waste vast areas of the earth, wantonly destroying the mighty forests of the land, polluting the air with poisonous gases, polluting our beautiful rivers and streams and even the ocean itself, threatening to destroy all marine life. Of these and many other crimes capitalism is guilty, not to mention its basic crime, the exploitation and legal robbery of the working class, the sole producer of all social wealth.

It is to the destruction of this monstrous system the Socialist Labor Party is dedicated, and in entering this crucial historic campaign we pledge all our efforts and resources to arouse the working class to a consciousness of the mission evolution and history have assigned to it—the deliverance of man from the scourge of wars, poverty and all forms of slavery.

In the words of our great founder, Daniel De Leon, "the program of the Socialist Labor Party . . . is [the rearing of] the Industrial or Socialist Re-

public, the social order where the political State is overthrown; where the Congress of the land consists of the representatives of the useful occupations of the land; where, accordingly, government is an essential factor in production; where the blessings to man that [our marvelous technology] is instinct with is freed from the trammels of the private ownership that now turn the potential blessings into a curse; where, accordingly, abundance can be the patrimony of all who work, and the shackles of wage slavery are no more."

To bring this program to its full-orbed success, the Party appeals to all serious minded men and women to give it their unstinted support, in this campaign and as long as may be necessary hereafter.

And now, in behalf of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party, I declare this 27th National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party in session.

THE 27th NATIONAL CONVENTION of the SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

Minutes of the Proceedings of the Convention

MORNING SESSION, SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1968

The convention was called to order at 11 a.m. by National Secretary Arnold Paersen at The Towers Hotel, Brooklyn, N.Y., with the following opening address:

See page 7 of this report.

Nathan Karp (New Jersey) was elected temporary chairman.

Herbert Steiner (California) was elected temporary vice chairman.

Aaron M. Orage (New York) was elected temporary recording secretary.

On motion, the following were elected a Credentials Committee: Bernard Reitzes (New York), Joseph Pirincin (Ohio), Georgia Cozzini (Wisconsin).

A recess was declared to permit the Credentials Committee to examine the credentials of the delegates.

The Credentials Committee reported thirty-four delegates present representing the following states and Federations:

California, 5 delegates: Herbert Steiner, Robert W. Long, John P. Quinn, Ralph Forsyth, Jean Steiner; Connecticut, 1 delegate: Martin Spahr; District of Columbia, 1 delegate: Milos Cico; Illinois, 2 delegates: Louis Fisher, Edward C. Gross; Indiana, 1 delegate: Herman Krocawitter; Massachusetts, 1 delegate: Henning A. Blomen; Michigan, 2 delegates: James Sim, Ralph W. Muncy; Minnesota, 1 delegate: Eldred H. Bauers; Missouri, 1 delegate: Clara Hayes; New Jersey, 2 delegates: Nathan Karp, Julius Levin; New York, 4 delegates: Doris Ballantyne, John Emanuel, Aaron M. Orage, Bernard Reitzes; Ohio, 2 delegates: Peter M. Kapitz, Joseph Pirincin; Oregon, 1 delegate: Bert L. Baxter; Pennsylvania, 2 delegates: George S. Taylor, Jack C. Reynier; Washington, 1 delegate: Henry Killman; Wisconsin, 1 delegate: Georgia Cozzini; Bulgarian SLF, 3 delegates: S. Sterioff, Chris M. Oundjieff, A. Trundoff; South Slavonian SLF, 3 delegates: Peter Slepceovich, Matt Kovach, B. Radov.

The Credentials Committee reported that Wm. B. Hendry presented his credentials as fraternal delegate from the Canadian Socialist Labor Party, and recommended the seating of the delegates and fraternal delegate. On motion, concurred in.

On motion, the following were elected Committee on Agenda: John P. Quinn (California) and James Sim (Michigan).

A recess was declared.

On reconvening, John P. Quinn, reporting for the committee, recommended adoption of the following Order of Business and Rules:

A

1. Organization:
 - a. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman.
 - b. Election of Permanent Recording Secretary.
 - c. Appointment of Permanent Sergeant-at-arms.
 - d. Appointment of a Messenger.
2. Election of Committee on Mileage (2).
3. Recess.
4. Report of Mileage Committee.
5. Recess.
6. Report of National Executive Committee.
7. Report of Editor of the WEEKLY PEOPLE.
8. Election of Committees:
 - a. To Ascertain Availability of Candidates for President and Vice President (2).
 - b. On Platform and Resolutions Pertaining Thereto (3).
 - c. On Internal Party Matters (3).
 - d. To Ascertain Availability of National Officers (2).
 - e. On Constitution and Matters Pertaining Thereto (3).
 - f. On Party Press and Literature (3).
 - g. On National Campaign and General Agitation (3).
 - h. Auditing Committee (2).
9. Roll Call of Delegates for the Introduction of Resolutions for Referral to Appropriate Committees.
10. Adjournment—4 p.m.

B

The following Order of Business for each day after the first.

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman.
2. Roll Call of Delegates.
3. Reading minutes of previous session.
4. Communications.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. Reports of Committees in the order of their election.
 - a. On Internal Party Matters.
 - b. On Availability of National Officers.
 - c. On Constitution and Matters Pertaining Thereto.

d. On Party Press and Literature.

e. On National Campaign and General Agitation.

f. Auditing Committee.

7. Last half hour of each afternoon session (except on the final day): New Business and introduction of Resolutions for referral to appropriate Committees.
8. Morning sessions from 9:30 a.m. to noon.
Afternoon sessions from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Evening sessions, if necessary, from 7 to 10 p.m.

C

Special Orders of Business:

1. Report of Committee on Availability of Candidates for President and Vice President, Sunday, May 5, 3 p.m.
2. Nomination of Candidates for President and Vice President following report of Committee on Availability of Candidates.
3. Election of Committee on Vacancies following nomination of National Candidates.
4. Report of Committee on Platform following the election of Committee on Vacancies.
5. Election of National Secretary following Report of Committee on Availability of National Officers.
6. Election of Editor of the Weekly People following the election of the National Secretary.
7. Address of Fraternal Delegate, last day of Convention.
8. Reports of Delegates, last day of Convention.

On motion, concurred in.

On motion, the following officers were made permanent for the day: Nathan Karp (N.J.), chairman; Herbert Steiner (Calif.), vice chairman.

Walter Steinhilber was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

Alex Merson was appointed Messenger.

On motion, Aaron M. Orange (N.Y.) was elected permanent recording secretary for the duration of the convention.

Sophie Blumé was appointed assistant recording secretary for the duration of the convention.

On motion, a Committee on Mileage was elected composed of George S. Taylor (Pa.) and Julius Levin (N.J.).

A recess was declared at 11:45 a.m.

Called to order at 12:25 p.m.

The Committee on Mileage (G. S. Taylor reporting) recommended payment of mileage in the amount of \$3,223.36 to the various dele-

gates. At the request of the chairman, the individual amounts were itemized.

Motion carried that the report be accepted and mileage paid.

A motion was made (at 12:30 p.m.) to recess and reconvene at 1:15 p.m. Amended to reconvene at 1:30 p.m. Motion passed as amended.

AFTERNOON SESSION, SATURDAY, MAY 4

The convention was called to order by Chairman Karp at 1:35 p.m.

On roll call, all present with the exception of Martin Spahr (Conn.).

The chairman, calling for the next order of business (Report of the National Executive Committee), made the following remarks:

"The next order of business is the Report of the National Executive Committee to this 27th National Convention of the Party. Starting in 1916, and for thirteen consecutive quadrennial conventions, these reports have been delivered on behalf of the National Executive Committee by Comrade Arnold Petersen in his capacity as National Secretary of the Party. These reports, as has been stated on prior occasions, constitute more than a mere recitation of details and figures. They are, to a great extent, a history of our Party, a history of the labor movement in America, and a review and analysis of the developments that have helped mold the Party's tactics and shaped the Party's organizational structure. These reports constitute some of the most valuable sources of information and education for Socialist Labor Party men and women. We are about to hear another such report. It is my pleasure and privilege to present now Comrade Arnold Petersen, who will present the Report of the National Executive Committee."

The National Secretary submitted the Report of the National Executive Committee, the Reports of the Federations and the section on International SLP Organizations laid over.

At 3 p.m. a five-minute recess was declared.

Following the reading of the "In Memoriam" section of the Report, the chairman called on all present to rise in silent tribute to the comrades and friends who had passed away.

The chairman announced that there is a supplement to the Report of the NEC dealing with Internal Party Matters, recommending that it be taken up in executive session at a time to be decided.

The National Secretary concluded the reading of the Report of the National Executive Committee on general activities.

On motion, the report was accepted and matters requiring action referred to appropriate committees.

The Editor of the WEEKLY PEOPLE rendered his report. On motion,

it was referred to the Committee on Party Press and Literature.

Motion carried that the Rules be suspended and the two remaining Orders of Business (Election of Committees and Roll Call of Delegates for Introduction of Resolutions . . .) be made the first two orders of business at the Sunday, May 5, session, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

At 4:25 p.m., a motion was carried to adjourn and reconvene Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. sharp.

MORNING SESSION, SUNDAY, MAY 5

The convention was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by N. Karp.

On motion, Nathan Karp (N.J.) was elected chairman for the day; Herbert Steiner (Calif.) vice chairman for the day.

On roll call, all present except R. Long (Calif.) and E. L. Baxter (Ore.), who arrived shortly after.

Minutes of the sessions of Saturday, May 4, adopted with correction.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEES

On motion, the following were elected:

Committee to Ascertain Availability of Candidates for President and Vice President: John P. Quinn (Calif.), Joseph Pirincin (Ohio).

Committee on Platform and Resolutions Pertaining Thereto: Henning A. Blomen (Mass.), Jack C. Reyner (Pa.), Ralph W. Muncy (Mich.)

Committee on Internal Party Matters: Joseph Pirincin (Ohio), John P. Quinn (Calif.), Georgia Cozzini (Wis.).

Committee to Ascertain Availability of National Officers: John Emanuel (N.Y.), H. Killman (Wash.).

Committee on Constitution and Matters Pertaining Thereto: N. Karp (N.J.), James Sim (Mich.), George S. Taylor (Pa.).

Committee on Party Press and Literature: Robert W. Long (Calif.), Bernard Reitzes (N.Y.), Peter Kapitz (Ohio).

Committee on National Campaign and General Agitation: Herbert Steiner (Calif.), Julius Levin (N.J.), Aaron M. Orange (N.Y.).

Auditing Committee: Jean Steiner (Calif.), Edward C. Gross (Ill.).

Roll was called for introduction of Resolutions. None submitted.

The chairman suggested that in order to permit the Committees on Platform . . . and Availability of Candidates for President and Vice President to work, a recess be taken until 1:30 p.m.

Motion carried at 10:10 a.m. to recess and reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION, SUNDAY, MAY 5

Called to order at 1:40 p.m. by N. Karp, chairman.
On roll call, all delegates present.

The following sections of the Report of the National Executive Committee which had been laid over were now read: Reports of the Bulgarian and South Slavonian Socialist Labor Federations, and on International SLP Organizations.

At 2:10 p.m. a motion was carried to suspend the rules and hear the report of the Committee on National Platform.

H. A. Blomen (Mass.), reporting for the committee, submitted the proposed National Platform for 1968 which was read in full and then taken up paragraph by paragraph. A number of amendments were made and concurred in; one paragraph on page 1 (paragraph 6) was recommitted.

A brief recess was declared at 3:50 p.m.

Report of Committee on Availability of Candidates for President and Vice President, J. Pirincin (Ohio) reporting:

"Your committee is pleased to report that we have ascertained that we have comrades available to serve as the Party's standard bearers in the 1968 presidential election. Their names will be placed in nomination. It is understood that further nominations can be made by other delegates to this convention."

J. P. Quinn (Calif.) rose to place the name of Henning A. Blomen, of Massachusetts, in nomination as candidate for President of the United States. Unanimously approved by a rising vote.

J. Pirincin (Ohio) placed in nomination the name of George S. Taylor (Pennsylvania) as candidate for Vice President of the U.S. Unanimously approved by a rising vote.

The chairman called upon the candidates to address the convention.

Henning A. Blomen and George S. Taylor delivered brief addresses of acceptance.

Motion carried that the National Executive Committee be constituted the Committee on Vacancies.

Report of Committee on Platform (H. A. Blomen reporting) submitted a substitute paragraph for the one recommitted which on motion, was approved.

On motion, the Platform was adopted as amended.

Chairman called for introduction of Resolutions by delegates. None submitted.

At 4:30 p.m. a motion was carried to suspend the rules and adjourn until 6 p.m. to reconvene in executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, SUNDAY EVENING, MAY 5

Called to order at 6:30 p.m. by N. Karp, chairman.

The Sergeant-at-Arms was instructed to verify the Party membership of all present.

* * * *

At 9:55 p.m., a motion to adjourn to reconvene in executive session Monday, at 9:30 a.m., carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 6

Called to order at 9:40 a.m. by N. Karp, chairman.

On motion, N. Karp elected chairman for the day; H. Steiner elected vice chairman for the day.

On roll call, all delegates present.

Minutes of the sessions of Sunday, May 5, were adopted with correction.

* * * *

Motion carried to suspend the rules and hear the report of the Auditing Committee.

Report of the Auditing Committee (J. Steiner, Calif., reporting), submitted the following, recommending adoption:

I. "Your Auditing Committee has examined the records of the National Office and Party Plant for the years 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967, which were audited by Certified Public Accountants, and the committee recommends that these financial reports be adopted."

II. "Your committee has observed in the past four years the amount of money collected for the Esperanto Fund totals approximately \$191, of which \$11 was collected in 1967. Upon discussion with Comrade Benson Perry of Philadelphia [Secretary of the Esperanto Committee], we recommend discontinuance of this Esperanto Fund, and monies collected be turned over to the Press Security Fund."

Motion made and seconded to concur in the committee's recommendations. Request made for division.

On I, motion carried to concur.

On II, re Esperanto Fund, motion made and seconded to concur.

Motion to amend that monies collected to date and in the future be turned into the Press Security Fund, carried.

The motion as amended was defeated.

Motion made at 11 a.m. to recess until 3 p.m. Amendment to recess until 6 p.m. Motion as amended carried.

EVENING SESSION, MONDAY, MAY 6

Called to order at 6:15 p.m. by N. Karp, chairman.

On roll call, all present except H. Kronewitter (Indiana), who arrived late.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Committee on Platform and Resolutions Pertaining Thereto (R. W. Muncy, Mich., reporting) submitted resolutions on the following subjects:

1. On Economic Organization of the Working Class.

On motion, adopted as amended.

2. On The Urban Crisis and Social Reaction.

A number of amendments were made and carried up to the middle of page 3. Motion to refer back to the committee the balance of the resolution, carried.

At 8:05 p.m. a five-minute recess was declared.

J. C. Rayner (Pa.), reporting for the *Committee on Platform and Resolutions Pertaining Thereto*, submitted a resolution *On the International Situation and International Socialism* which, on motion, was adopted as amended.

H. A. Blomen (Mass.), reporting for the committee, submitted a resolution on *Black Power*.

Motion that the entire resolution be rejected, carried.

Committee on National Campaign and General Agitation. (H. Steiner, Calif., reporting) submitted the following:

"The Party enters the 1968 presidential campaign facing the most devastating crisis in the history of mankind. The point has been reached where our very lives depend on what we do now to advance the program and principles to which we have dedicated ourselves as members of the SLP. The outcome of this critical period will depend on the extent to which our membership responds to the requirements of the times.

"Just as the working class has the historic mission of overthrowing capitalism, so the SLP membership has the historic mission of projecting the program to our class for organizing the forces to save the world from catastrophe—or annihilation.

1. *Re Signature Gathering*

"If we are going to achieve our objective of placing the SLP on the ballot in at least as many states as we did in 1964, it is of great importance that the members make themselves available to take the most vital first step of gathering the necessary signatures to qualify the Party for a place on the various state ballots.

"If we fail in this endeavor, it will seriously handicap our agitational activities during the campaign.

"Accordingly, we appeal to the members to devote all or part of

their vacations to insure that the Party will succeed in our ballot efforts.

"2. *Re Leaflet Distribution*

"Leaflet distribution has been the historic weapon of every revolutionary class in modern history for reaching the masses with its revolutionary ideas.

"Even though new media of communications have been developed, these media are for the most part not accessible to the Socialist Movement. We must rely on mass dissemination of our revolutionary message through mass distribution of leaflets.

"It is indeed regrettable that the Party membership has fallen down in recent years in carrying on this primary SLP activity. From reports of the NEC it is clear that there are side effects from the decline in leaflet distribution. It reduces inquiries, cuts down on lecture, study class and discussion group attendance, contact work, sale of literature and WP subs and, in the final analysis, Party membership!

"If we mean what we say, if our deed is to match our creed, every physically able member must firmly commit himself to participate in this most vital Party activity while it is still open to us. If all do, there is no doubt we can distribute millions of leaflets throughout the country in this fateful year. This is a realistic appraisal in the light of past performances in campaign years.

"3. *Re Tours of Candidates*

"Your committee recommends that the tours of the candidates, as in 1964, commence no later than Labor Day and that, until the start of these tours, the candidates be available to fill possible assignments of the state and local organizations.

"It is further recommended that the presidential candidate's tour commence on the West Coast with the view of his attending the primary convention of the State of Washington in mid-September; the vice presidential candidate's tour to commence on the East Coast.

"4. *Candidates' Appearances on Radio and TV*

"Your committee recommends that despite the present restrictions and possible elimination of Section 315, FCA, the Subdivisions make the effort to secure free radio-TV time for our candidates. For this reason, State Committees and Subdivisions should establish the necessary organization machinery to monitor all political broadcasts with a view to obtaining 'equal time' given to other candidates.

"5. *Re Appearances at Colleges, Etc.*

"In the light of previous successes in having our candidates and other Party spokesmen appear before college groups, it is recommended that all State Executive Committees and local subdivisions

pursue this important activity during the 1968 campaign.

"It is further recommended that the Subdivisions make the effort to have our candidates appear before other groups and forums.

"6. *Re Publicity*

"In checking over the 1964 publicity procedures, your committee noted that the National Office's careful planning and direction, and the supplying of press releases, publicity material, etc., for local use—for radio, TV, and newspaper publicity—proved to be very helpful to the Subdivisions. Therefore, we recommend that the same procedure be followed in the 1968 campaign.

"7. *Re Newspaper Advertising*

"Your committee recognizes that newspaper ads in Metropolitan dailies have proven to be an effective means of agitation in recent years. We further recognize that there are special problems that must be considered in this regard. Therefore, it is recommended that in 1968, as in 1964, the National Office utilize this means of agitation whenever and wherever possible.

"8. *Re Forums*

"Your committee recommends that the National Office remind the Subdivisions of the action taken by the 1964 National Convention in respect to our candidates' appearing at public forums with splinter groups or other organizations claiming to represent Socialism, or Labor, or masquerading as dissident elements of the major parties.

"9. *Re Public Meetings*

"Your committee notes the steady decline in the number of public meetings held throughout the country. We agree with the view expressed by the National Secretary in his report to the 1967 NEC Session that:

"Despite the downward trend, we must continue this activity on as wide a scale as possible. Public meeting are important (if for no other reason) because they are 'a training ground for new speakers and to keep our experienced speakers up to date and in good form . . .'"

"Because of the 1968 National Campaign, as well as the fast deteriorating social conditions, there is every reason to expect there will be an upsurge in lecture attendance.

"We therefore consider it essential that the Subdivisions arrange lectures and consistently and extensively advertise these meetings through the distribution of imprinted leaflets and/or fliers, sending press releases to newspapers, radio and TV outlets, and other means of publicizing these meetings.

"10. *Study Class and Discussion Groups*

"Your committee is of the opinion that the section in the NEC Report to the Convention dealing with the relative importance of study classes and discussion groups (page 17) is of such special importance that it is recommended that this section be sent to the Subdivisions for their guidance."

On motion, adopted.

Motion made by R. W. Muncy, Mich., and seconded, that the National Office arrange to have radio and television tapes prepared by the presidential candidates which will be available for local or state use at times during which, or at places in which, the candidates find it impossible to appear in person.

Motion carried to refer this recommendation to the National Office to look into its possibilities and implement it as far as possible.

At 9:25 p.m. a motion to adjourn until 1 p.m., Tuesday, May 7, carried.

TUESDAY, MAY 7, AFTERNOON SESSION

Called to order at 1:05 p.m. by N. Karp, chairman.

On motion, N. Karp elected chairman for the day; H. A. Blomen elected vice chairman for the day.

On roll call, all present.

Minutes of the Monday, May 6, sessions adopted with correction.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Committee on Platform and Resolutions Pertaining Thereto (R. W. Muncy, Mich., reporting) submitted the Resolution on Urban Crisis and Social Reaction which had been recommitted.

Motion to adopt the resolution as amended, carried.

Committee on Party Press and Literature (B. Reitzes, New York, reporting) submitted the following recommendations which, on motion, were adopted:

"This nation and the world are either already in, or entering upon, a revolutionary crisis—the most critical revolutionary crisis in all history. How this crisis is ultimately resolved will determine if the human race will finally realize the fulfillment of its age-old aspirations for peace, freedom and security, or if it will be plunged back into a new 'Dark Ages' of indeterminate duration—indeed, if the race will survive at all. Only social sanity can save the day. Fortunately, social sanity does exist. It is embodied in the principles and program of the SLP, and there only. And its most enduring voice is to be found in the Party's written words—in the WEEKLY PEOPLE and other Party publications.

"Because of the imminent need for the resolution of this crisis, the WEEKLY PEOPLE and other SLP literature must be placed in the hands of, and impressed upon the consciousness of the members of our class to a far greater extent than ever before. Unfortunately, as has been reported by the Party's NEC to this convention, the trend in recent times has been in the opposite direction. This declining trend must be halted and reversed. This is most essential, and to this formidable task your committee feels it must direct its attention.

"We offer no miraculous plans to this end, nor do we suggest anything really new—we cannot. There are no 'miracles' in the SLP, only hard, persistent work by its members. No plans or methods, old or new, can bear fruit unless they are implemented, that is, unless the Party's membership puts them to use. For this reason, our proposed methods are all 'tried and true' ones. We can only hope to suggest ways to make them more effective by expanding or systematizing them.

"I. WEEKLY PEOPLE Circulation

"(a) Subscriptions:

"Without intending to minimize the importance or value of other outlets for the circulation of the WEEKLY PEOPLE (with which we shall also deal), your committee feels that regular receipt of the WP in the home through subscription is the best assurance we can hope for that our organ will be read regularly and that its message will have the desired salutary effect. Our contact lists—those who have evinced some interest in the Party's message—are the only real source of prospective subscribers. Unfortunately, these lists remain fallow, in large measure, after we have spent much effort, time and money to obtain them. They are only sporadically and haphazardly followed up, for the most part. Your committee is of the opinion that, where personal follow-up is not possible for practical reasons, systematized, uniform methods of regular mail follow-up are necessary in order to obtain the most from these lists, with special emphasis on ultimately obtaining subscriptions to the WEEKLY PEOPLE.

"Accordingly, your committee recommends that the State Executive Committees be urged to devise and prepare such systematic regular mail follow-up plans, and that the necessary material to implement the plans should be made available to the Subdivisions in the respective states.

"In this connection, there can be an exchange of ideas between respective State Executive Committees each contributing samples of follow-up material and calling attention to the points that bring in the best results. For example, your committee has learned that the

New York SEC is at present working on the preparation of just such a follow-up plan for use on its contact lists.

"(b) Self-service Newsstands:

"Self-service newsstands have been shown to be an important method of securing WP subscriptions since newsstand readers often become subscribers. Your committee recommends that this activity be continued, and that efforts be made to expand it and introduce it into new areas wherever possible. Special appeals to subscribe should be made to newsstand readers by means of posters or the insertion of such appeals in the copies placed on the newsstands.

"(c) Commercial Newsstands:

"Commercial newsstands can be productive, especially in the general circulation of the WP. An example of the results that can be obtained from this source can be drawn from the experience of Section New York, briefly alluded to in the report of the NEC. One member, in Manhattan alone, has been collecting a total monthly average of some \$15 or so in net sales for the past several years from the several commercial stands he services. And, as with self-service stands, these stands can also be productive of subscriptions. Your committee recommends, therefore, that extensive and continued efforts be made by the Subdivisions and members to induce commercial newsstand dealers to handle and display the WEEKLY PEOPLE.

"(d) WEEKLY PEOPLE Articles:

"Sound, timely, well-written, concise articles in the WEEKLY PEOPLE are most important in securing renewals of expired subscriptions. Your committee recommends that all qualified members be urged and encouraged to submit articles for publication as often as possible.

"(e) Personal Contacts:

"Finally, with respect to the circulation of the WEEKLY PEOPLE, your committee recommends that the following portion of the report of the Committee on Party Press and Literature at the NEC Session in 1967 be again called to the attention of the Subdivisions and members:

"... Our membership must reactivate the practice of personal solicitations of subscriptions. In this connection, we recall that one of the primary duties of SLP members called for in the Party's Constitution is that of making every effort to obtain new subscriptions to the WEEKLY PEOPLE. Unfortunately, for a long time it has been a duty honored in the breach. We urge that SLP members be reminded of this duty and that they become subscription-minded, zealously working on friends, neighbors and fellow-workers with a view to mak-

ing them subscribers to the WEEKLY PEOPLE."

"2. Literature Circulation

"(a) Bookstore Sales:

"It has been amply demonstrated and reported that commercial bookstores can be invaluable outlets for Party literature. The 26th National Convention recommended the preparation of a 'Guide' suggesting initial approaches and methods for placing literature in bookstores. Your committee recommends that this matter be reviewed with the view to incorporating the latest findings in this field of endeavor, the results of such review to be made available to the Subdivisions.

"(b) Literature Display:

"Your committee recommends that the recommendation of the NEC, made at its 1967 Session, that the Subdivisions display Party literature at socials and picnics should be reiterated and again be called to the attention of the Subdivisions."

At 1:55 p.m., motion to recess for one hour, amended to recess for an hour-and-a-half. Motion as amended carried.

Called to order at 3:30 p.m. by chairman N. Karp, who announced that the Convention was in executive session.

On roll call, all present.

* * * *

At 4:25 p.m., Christ Oundjief, Editor of *Rabotnisheska Prosveta*, requested to be excused, out of necessity to return to his office. Request granted.

The chairman declared the convention out of executive session.

Committee on Availability of National Officers (H. Killman, Wash., reporting) submitted the following:

"Your committee has carefully canvassed the field and has ascertained that there are members who plan to place in nomination the names of able and qualified SLP men for the important national Party offices that must be filled."

On motion, concurred in.

Election of National Officers

John P. Quinn (Calif.) placed in nomination for National Secretary the name of Arnold Petersen.

Arnold Petersen, being asked by the chair whether he accepts the nomination, made the following statement:

"I am deeply honored by again being nominated for the office of National Secretary of our Party, and in ordinary circumstances I

would accept without reservations. However, the circumstances are not ordinary.

"This year marks the 54th anniversary of my having had the privilege of serving the Party in this office and the confidence reposed in me by the membership. You may recall that about ten years ago I remarked in my report to the NEC (1957) that I felt it was time for the Party to look around for a successor. However, nothing further was said or done about it.

"Two years ago circumstances affecting my personal affairs took a turn which then prompted me to consider the possibility and advisability of withdrawing as National Secretary if nomination were offered by the 1968 National Convention. I had then intended to announce that I would either resign at the 1967 NEC Session, or decline nomination (if made) at the 1968 Convention. A year ago my doctor advised me that I must 'take it easy,' etc.

"Accordingly, I am convinced that I should not, and cannot, accept nomination for four more years as National Secretary. At the same time it would, I believe, be quite unthinkable that I should leave the office with a crucial campaign impending that will tax all of us—and not the least so at National Headquarters—and demand the utmost of each and every one of us. Moreover, it would place an intolerable, if not impossible burden on my faithful and devoted assistants in the National Office, and particularly on Comrade Nathan Karp who will be almost entirely involved in managing our campaign, with all that that implies.

"With this in mind, I would therefore accept the nomination with the clear understanding that I should feel free to resign the office at the end of the year or as soon as possible thereafter.

"This is my position, and these are my reasons for my readiness to accept nomination with the reservations stated, I hope I need not assure you that if nominated and elected as aforesaid, I shall exert all my energies, and such experience as I have gathered for more than half a century, to merit your continued confidence."

On motion, Arnold Petersen was unanimously re-elected National Secretary by a rising vote.

Georgia Cozzini (Wis.) placed in nomination for Editor of the WEEKLY PEOPLE the name of John Timm.

On motion, John Timm was unanimously elected Editor of the WEEKLY PEOPLE by a rising vote.

At the request of the chair, John Timm spoke briefly in acceptance of his new post:

"I accept of course. I accept as a duty, as an obligation to the Party, its members and our Socialist cause. I have always done my

best in the past, and I shall continue to do so. My hope is that my best will be still better."

Motion carried at 4:45 p.m. to recess until 6 p.m.

M. Spahr (Conn.) requested to be excused. Granted.

EVENING SESSION, TUESDAY, MAY 7

Called to order at 6:10 p.m.

On roll call, all present with the exception of the two delegates who were excused.

Committee on Constitution and Matters Pertaining Thereto (G. S. Taylor, Pa., reporting), submitted the following:

I. "Your committee has carefully reviewed the Party's Constitution and the constitutional amendments proposed by the National Office and makes the following report and recommendations—[amendments to the Party Constitution in:]

Article I, Section 1	Article V, Section 10,
Article II, Section 3	New Paragraph (c)
Article II, Section 5	Article V, Section 13 (h)
Article II, Section 7 (b)	Article V, New Section 20
Article II, Section 17	Article VI, Section 5
Article II, Section 24	Article VI, Section 6
Article II, Section 25	Article VII, Section 1
Article II, Section 29 (a)	Article VII, Section 3
Article II, Section 29 (e)	Article VII, New Section 12
Article II, Section 42	Article VII, New Section 13
Article IV, New Section 14	Article VIII, Section 1
Article V, Section 2,	Article IX, Section 9
New Paragraph (b)	Article XII, Section 4
Article V, Section 4	Article XIII, Section 1 (b)
Article V, Section 9	Article XIII, Section 2
	Article XIII, Section 12

The amendments were acted upon seriatim. On motion, all approved with the exception of:

Article V, Section 9 and Article V, Section 13-h, which were adopted as amended.

Motion carried to reconsider the vote taken on amendment to Article XI, Section 9. On motion, the word "political" which was stricken out, was ordered reinserted.

* * *

The chairman called on William B. Hendry, fraternal delegate from the Canadian SLP, to address the Convention. He did so in a brief, moving address, presenting the "best wishes, greatest appreciation and

gratitude for the assistance [they] have received in Canada which helped to build a Socialist Labor Party there."

Motion carried to dispense with the next Order of Business, "Reports of Delegates."

Motion (by J. Pirincin, Ohio) that the Supplement to the Report of the NEC on Internal Matters, and all references thereto in the minutes, be supplied to the membership separately and apart from the proceedings of the Convention. Carried.

Recess at 7:45 p.m. for preparation of the minutes.

R. W. Long (Calif.) requested to be excused. Granted. Elizabeth Stanich, alternate delegate, seated.

Called to order at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes of Tuesday, May 7, sessions adopted as read.

The convention adjourned at 8:05 p.m. sine die.

Fraternally submitted,

AARON M. ORANGE
Recording Secretary

SOPHIE BLUME
Assist. Rec. Secretary

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

To the 27th National Convention, Socialist Labor Party, May 4, 1968.

Comrade Delegates—Greetings:

The past year has again been a year of extraordinary troubles and problems for the Party for which we must find solutions, hopefully at this convention. Never before have the SLP and its membership been tested and tried as they have been since the 1967 NEC Session adjourned. The situation, however, is very far from hopeless—indeed, despite the sometimes gloomy outlook, there are good, rational grounds for expecting that we shall emerge out of the recent period of stresses and disappointments and calmly resume the forward march with undiminished determination and hopes for the future of what we like to call the indestructible SLP. Facing a foe which is united in purpose, if not in action, we shall close ranks, supremely confident that our program for working-class emancipation will finally prevail.

In the words of Abraham Lincoln:

"That our principles, however baffled or delayed, will finally triumph, I do not permit myself to doubt. Men will pass away—die, die politically and naturally; but the principle will live, and live forever."

Lincoln's principles triumphed, and so will ours.

In what follows are recorded some of our trials and problems, as well as such achievements as were possible despite outside and inside pressures from those who wish us ill, and from those who fundamentally wish us well, though impatiently manifesting dissent or dissatisfaction. To these latter we may say in the words of De Leon:

"Retrace your steps, ye who would overthrow capitalism, and impatiently seek for shortcuts and bypaths. There is no shortcut, there are no bypaths available."

GENERAL AGITATION

ORGANIZERS

Herbert Steiner

As in past years, Comrade Herbert Steiner was toured through

the states of Oregon and Washington, with a short visit to Vancouver, B.C., from July 25 to August 31, 1967. He was "loaned" to the National Organization by the California SEC which employed him as State Organizer from March 27 to November 19, 1967, barring the six weeks when he was toured by the National Office. Comrade Steiner has again been engaged by the SEC as State Organizer, beginning March 25, 1968, and he will again be toured in the Pacific Northwest states for a period yet to be determined. A brief visit to Vancouver, B.C., will be included. Our Canadian SLP comrades have expressed their gratitude for inclusion of this far away Section, for however limited a visit. Comrade Steiner reported that when he was there last year "the members expressed enthusiasm with the overall results."

It is of special importance that Comrade Steiner visit Washington this campaign year, for his help is greatly needed in ensuring that the Party's ticket is placed on the ballot there. A great deal of preliminary work must be done prior to holding the statutory nominating convention early in September—work that Steiner has had much experience with. It is expected the Washington comrades will succeed in placing the Party's ticket on the ballot, as they have done in past national elections.

The reports submitted by Comrade Steiner reveal that excellent work was done, though the concrete results achieved cannot be said to measure up fully to the efforts exerted and the cost. It is a case here, as in all other respects of SLP activities, of casting our bread upon the waters and anticipating its return.

The work of the organizer consisted mainly in leaflet distribution, visiting or otherwise making contact with interested persons, addressing public meetings, picnics and social affairs; arranging for and taping talks for release over a Seattle radio station, and advising and counselling the members concerning local activities and problems, etc., etc. The Washington SEC has repeatedly stressed the importance of Comrade Steiner's visits (sometimes accompanied by his comrade-wife) for the stimulating effect they have on the membership. Our Washington State Secretary once put it: "These two fine comrades [Herb and Jean Steiner] are always an inspiration to the Washington membership."

The statistics of the Northwest tour are as follows: Lectures, five, at which collections totaling \$187 were taken up; literature sales \$24.50. Seattle Discussion Group, five sessions; literature sales \$13.45, collections \$7.75. Leaflets distributed: 10,000. Contact results: subs \$9, literature sales \$3.75. Radio-TV: KRAB-FM (Seattle), three 15-minute commentaries and one hour interview; KTW (Seat-

tle), 1½ hour call-in program; Vancouver, B.C., one 10-minute radio talk; Portland, 5-minute interview over TV, released on two newscasts. Spoke at Washington picnic and Vancouver, B.C., social (collections \$275 and \$100, respectively).

John P. Quinn

Though our veteran National Organizer is no longer being toured, he is always ready and eager to pitch in and help out when his health permits and occasion warrants. Having been elected a delegate from California, he suggested that on his way East he would be glad to make a few stops, and arrangements have been made for his visiting Denver, Colo., on April 27, 28 and 29. Section Denver expressed pleasure in once more greeting him and putting him to work. Through cooperation of a former Iowa member, Fred E. Waitz, arrangements have been made for him to address students and faculty members on May 1 at Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, Iowa. His reports on these activities are eagerly awaited.

Requests for an organizer to visit cities and areas are made from time to time. Recently Section St. Louis, Mo., pleaded for one. Unhappily the Section's wish could not be gratified. And in response to an inquiry from Section Denver last December, the National Secretary wrote the organizer, Frank Bell:

"The subject of national organizer is never from our minds. The problem is to find a comrade who is qualified and willing. Repeated calls for one (through NEC reports and letters to Sections) have produced no reactions, but we shall continue trying."

This nagging problem continues to plague us, and it is to be hoped a solution will be found before long. From time to time efforts will be made to keep the matter alive and before the Subdivisions in the hope of finding one or more qualified organizers.

Leaflet Distribution

There was (during recent years) an alarming falling off in leaflet distribution that should give us pause and a great deal of soul-searching. The total distributed in 1967 was only 1,100,000, as against 1,900,000 in 1966, which itself represented a serious reduction. And this in face of the prospect that leaflet distribution is becoming our sole means of addressing or reaching the million-mass of workers, especially if the powerful radio-TV corporations have their way with Congress in the matter of Section 315, FCA! We have called attention to the dangerous tendency which these figures reveal, but it seems clear that neither sermonizing nor adjurations make any impression. Let these figures, then, do the preaching and moralizing.

In view of this tendency, the prospects for the 1968 campaign do not seem bright, but it is fervently to be hoped we shall be proved wrong, and that we shall better the total of over three million distributed in 1964.

This is the sad record for 1967. Note that with only three exceptions, every state registered a drop from the 1966 distribution of more than one-half. As an example, Ohio, one of our most active state organizations, dropped from 244,500 in 1966 to 125,000 in 1967. And so on.

	1967	1966
California	182,000	267,000
Colorado	2,375	5,750
Connecticut	3,042	5,000
Illinois	65,000	113,000
Indiana	24,000	50,000
Massachusetts	2,000	81,000
Michigan	108,000	206,000
Minnesota	50,000	58,000
Missouri	300	
New Jersey	70,000	172,000
New York	206,000	320,000
Ohio	126,000	245,000
Oregon	550	
Pennsylvania	153,000	209,000
Washington	40,000	57,000
Phoenix, Ariz.	45,000	48,000
Miami, Fla.	3,000	1,000

Public Meetings

There has been a steady decline in the number of public meetings held. Thus, in 1964 a total of 146 were held, but since that was a national campaign year, this number can hardly be regarded as a criterion. In 1965 the number was 100; in 1966 they dropped to 87; in 1967 only 72—half the 1964 total. As was pointed out in the National Secretary's report to the 1967 NEC Session, despite the downward trend we must continue this activity on as wide a scale as possible. Public meetings are important, if for no other reason than that they are "a training ground for new speakers and . . . keep our experienced speakers up to date and in 'good form' . . . If we were to discontinue our regular lectures, where would we get experienced speakers when we shall need them badly?" Some of these public lectures are well attended, and produce good results.

The following Subdivisions held public meetings as indicated: Los Angeles, Calif., 9; San Francisco 14 (2 outdoors); Cook County, Ill., 9; Boston-Lynn, Mass., 1; Washtenaw County, Mich., 1; Wayne County, 6; St. Louis, Mo., 2; Camden County, N.J., 1; Greater New York, 8; Akron, O., 5; Cincinnati, 1; Cleveland, 1; Portland, Ore. 3; Seattle (by Washington SEC), 5; Milwaukee, Wis., 5.

Letters to the Press

Nathan Pressman, of Section New York, continues as the No. 1 letter-writer. Of 734 letters he sent out, 342 are known to have been published in 1967. This is the highest number he ever got published. He is also very active on radio call-in programs where he frequently succeeds in getting across the SLP message.

R. V. Brandborg, of Section Minneapolis, also continues as a prolific letter-writer. However, he was not as successful last year as previously in the ratio published. Of 111 letters mailed, only 13 are known to have been published.

Several members of Section Wayne County (Detroit, Mich.) carry on this work regularly with good results. Out of 82 letters sent, 26 are known to have been published. They find that in recent years they have gotten about one-third of their letters published. A. Sim, F. Troha and L. Churulich are regular participants, and all their letters are excellent.

R. W. Muncy of Section Washtenaw County, Mich., is successful in getting his letters published, as are Anne Karp and Robert Clement, of Section Passaic County, N.J.

Among others doing good work in this field are Richard Bell and Robert Cain of Section Denver, Colo.; W. Petrovich and R. Schoppa of Section Essex County, N.J.; M. Preston of Section Erie County, N.Y.; George La Forest of Section Rockford, Ill. A Wisconsin sympathizer is one of the most prolific letter-writers, succeeding in getting many, long letters published, for the most part presenting sound SLP views.

A recently admitted member, Malcolm L. Kaufman of Section Bridgeport, Conn., made his debut as letter-writer to the capitalist press with an excellent, long letter to the New Haven *Register*, a paper with 100,000 circulation. The National Secretary hailed this initial effort by this young comrade as a "model" for other SLP letter-writers. In sending his letter to the National Office, Comrade Kaufman wrote: "Reading of the value of letters-to-the-press-editors in the NEC report . . . I availed myself of the opportunity of the local paper's willingness to print non-conformist opinions." Hopefully, many others will avail themselves of similar opportunities in their respective localities.

Contact Work

There was an increase in the number of requests for information in 1967. To a considerable extent this was a result of our "mass advertising" in southern and western newspapers, of which more will

be said later. Statistics of inquiries received through various sources follow: Leaflets, 727; radio-TV, 88; miscellaneous, 314; ad placed in Chicago *Tribune* "Books" by the Illinois SEC, 37; Chicago *Sun-Times* (classified ad by the Illinois SEC), 12; *New Republic*, 494. Total inquiries from these sources, 1,672.

We have a record of 26 yearly WEEKLY PEOPLE subscriptions; 61 6-months subscriptions; 565 orders for pamphlets totaling \$295.

Once again we were pleased with results of advertising in the *New Republic*, which cost us \$78 for 26 insertions, and brought about 500 responses. These came from all 50 states, from Canada, Puerto Rico, France, Japan, Nigeria, England, Sweden, South Africa (Johannesburg), and also from men in the armed services abroad.

Leading, as usual, as a source of requests for information and literature are the results from leaflet distribution, emphasizing again the vital importance of continuing this work on an ever larger scale. Unfortunately, as reported before, the number of leaflets distributed having been considerably reduced, it was reflected in the falling off in inquiries from this source.

As mentioned before, full page ads were placed in a number of southern newspapers, six mid- and western papers, and a three-quarter page in the *New York Times*, Oct. 20, 1967, issue, tying in with the mass demonstrations over the weekend of Oct. 21-22. What follows is an account of this newspaper advertising and the story of how the latter came about:

As conveyed to the Subdivisions and membership, a three-quarter page advertisement was inserted in the *New York Times*, on Friday, Oct. 20, 1967, presenting the Party's position on peace demonstrations, etc. This kind of ad had been suggested some time previously by NEC member George S. Taylor, and had been approved in principle by the NEC Sub-Committee, but pressure of other matters prevented the National Office from carrying out the suggestion immediately. When we learned that mass peace demonstrations were being planned in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere, for the weekend of Oct. 21-22, it was decided to time the ad for its appearance just prior to the demonstrations. Comrades Herder, Steinhilber and Karp were appointed as a special committee, working under the supervision of the National Secretary, to handle the details.

Comrade Herder contracted for the space through his advertising agency, thereby saving the Party \$767 in agency fees. The cost of the ad, including typesetting, mats, etc., was \$4,506.

There were indications that the statement ("Why the Socialist Labor Party doesn't join the 'peace movement,' and . . . HOW PEACE DEMONSTRATIONS SUPPORT THE CAUSE OF WAR") made a

considerable impact. Members distributing leaflets to the demonstrators at the departure points in New York City and the arrival areas in Washington reported that many who were handed leaflets commented on the ad. Yet, the responses received at the National Office were fewer than we had hoped for. The relevant statistics follow:

Requests for free literature, 202; requests for speakers, 6; contributions, \$32; literature orders, \$12.

The circumstances that led to our placing a series of full-page advertisements in a number of newspapers in several Southern and Western states late in 1967, make an unusual and interesting story. During June and July of 1967, we received several cards and letters from a lady, whose wish to remain anonymous we are obligated to respect. Mostly these cards and letters were requests to send SLP literature to people whose names and addresses she supplied.

On July 16, she sent us \$1 to pay for 200 of the "You've Read the Lies About Socialism. . . ." leaflets, commenting: "As a first introduction leaflet I think this is the best thing you have. May I suggest that you encourage your friends in other states to distribute great numbers of these." We sent her the leaflets and wrote her, thanking her for her interest in the Party and for her complimentary comments on our leaflet.

We did not hear from the lady again until September 1, when she wrote: "I have seen [the] Socialist Labor Party's small pamphlets and wish that these could receive wider distribution. I have funds to invest, and would help if you have people who could establish branches in other cities for the distribution of this material. If you are interested will you please let me know as soon as possible, and perhaps we could meet to discuss the matter . . ."

Then followed the exchange of several brief letters dealing with the matter of arranging a mutually convenient meeting date between her and Comrade Karp. In one of these letters Mrs. E . . . wrote:

"Are there ways that you would be willing to undertake of reaching great numbers of people over the country with the little pamphlet, 'You've Read the Lies . . .'? I can think of ways, but am sure you know much more about the matter than I do . . ."

"We should reach millions with this pamphlet, and I would be willing to invest ten thousand dollars, as a starter, if we could be sure of doing so."

On Sept. 18, Comrade Karp, accompanied by Comrade Steinhilber, paid a visit to Mrs. E. — to discuss her offer. The lady turned out to be someone we already knew under another name. She had previously contributed \$6,000 to finance a plan under which we mailed 500

sample copies of the WEEKLY PEOPLE each week for about 35 weeks to names selected from telephone directories in southern towns of 20 to 30 thousand population. (She offered no explanation for using a different name, saying that she "had her reasons.")

After discussing various plans for making the contents of the leaflet, "You've Read the Lies . . .," known to large numbers of people, in areas where there are no SLP organizations, it was decided that full-page newspaper ads would be the most effective way under existing conditions. The questions was whether we could find newspapers willing to accept our ad. It was agreed to look into the matter, get prices, and then confer with Mrs. E.— again.

A firm in New York City, which represented 25-30 southern newspapers, was contacted. They submitted a copy of the leaflet to each newspaper, requesting prompt replies as to whether they would accept full-page ads of the text of the leaflet. Nine newspapers in four states responded favorably. In the conference with Mrs. E.— that followed, this plan was agreed upon: Full-page ads were to be placed in the following newspapers:

Louisville, Ky.	<i>Courier-Journal</i>	(a.m.)
Norfolk, Va.	<i>Virginian-Pilot</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>Ledger-Star</i>	(p.m.)
Raleigh, N.C.	<i>News & Observer</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>Times</i>	(p.m.)
Greensboro, N.C.	<i>News</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>Record</i>	(p.m.)
Baton Rouge, La.	<i>Advocate</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>State-Times</i>	(p.m.)

We were to continue our efforts to find additional newspapers willing to accept the ad. To "bind the agreement," Mrs. E.—handed Comrade Karp a bank check for \$3,000. Two weeks later she called the office and asked that we send someone to pick up the balance of \$7,000, which Comrade Steinhilber happily did!

The sum of \$4,533 was left from the funds she had contributed previously to finance the WEEKLY PEOPLE mailing project, and Mrs. E.— requested that this balance be used for advertising in newspapers.

The evening papers carried the ad on Thursday, Nov. 9.; the morning papers on Friday, Nov. 10. All the papers fulfilled their contracts except the two Baton Rouge, La., papers. They reneged at the last minute, the explanation given was that when the publisher first read the leaflet copy, he did not think the finished ad would be "so imposing."

We ran the second series of this ad in the following papers:

Atlanta, Ga.	<i>Constitution</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>Journal</i>	(p.m.)
Phoenix, Ariz.	<i>Republic</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>Gazette</i>	(p.m.)
New Orleans, La.	<i>Times-Picayune</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>States-Item</i>	(p.m.)
Topeka, Kans.	<i>Capital</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>State Journal</i>	(p.m.)
Des Moines, Ia.	<i>Register</i>	(a.m.)
	<i>Tribune</i>	(p.m.)

The ads appeared in the evening papers on Thursday, Nov. 30, and in the morning papers on Friday, Dec. 1.

Thus, the ads appeared in 17 newspapers in eight states, having a combined circulation of over two-and-a-quarter million. The net cost of the space was \$14,482. Comrade Herder saved the Party \$2,608 in agency commissions by placing all the ads through his agency. The production costs (typesetting, mats, stats, etc.) amounted to \$264.

The response to the ads surprised all of us. There were—

- 1,270 requests for free literature;
- 89 reply forms returned asking for additional literature;
- 31 6-months subscriptions;
- 7 yearly subscriptions;
- \$41.35 in literature orders.

The surprising thing was that we received only about 30 antagonistic responses, most of them anonymous. We had anticipated many such letters and we were glad to find we were wrong.

The ad got reactions from many quarters. The New Orleans *States-Item* printed an editorial on Dec. 5, defending both "free enterprise" and "free speech," apparently prompted by a letter from one of their readers. A copy of the editorial was sent to us by one who was impressed with our ad. In a brief note he wrote: "Enclosed you will find a clipping from the 'brass check' in the big city. Your ad has got some reaction in the press."

We received a telephone call from the news department of television station WVUE in New Orleans. They wanted information about the Party, its 1968 campaign plans—specifically who we were going to support for President. When told that we ran our own candidates and had been doing so since 1892, the gentleman exclaimed: "I guess this news department isn't as well informed as I thought."

We also received a letter from the moderator of a "talk radio

show" in Davenport, Iowa (Station WOC), who wrote in part: "Rather impressive full page ad in this morning's issue of the Des Moines Register and it's drawn a fair amount of comment." He invited a spokesman for the Party to participate in his show by long distance telephone. We contacted Comrade Pirincin, who accepted the assignment, and took part in a two-hour program on Dec. 13. Some who responded asked for free literature for themselves and friends. Several teachers asked for 30 or 40 sets for their classes.

At this writing, months after the last ad appeared, we are still getting responses. It had been our intention to work out a follow-up plans for these hundreds of names, but we simply have not been able to find the time (for reasons that should surprise no one) to think the matter through and work out such a plan, let alone put it into effect.

Naturally we kept Mrs. E— informed of all details. She wrote on Dec. 1: "Thank you very much for the information. I know this has meant much extra work and effort on your part, and I am deeply grateful. As a reward we can have the satisfaction of knowing that many minds are a little different than what they were before, which is the way freedom grows. Send me the copies [of the ad], and then I will let you rest for a while. Perhaps we can do more at some time in the future. . . ."

In acknowledgment we again expressed our gratitude to her for having made this outstanding agitational effort possible, adding: "The results to date have given all of us here a great lift."

For several months nothing further was heard from Mrs. E. Then the day after completion of this section of this report she called to tell us that she was back in New York City. She said she knew we were very busy and suggested that when time permitted she would like someone to meet with her. Hopefully she wishes to finance additional ads, perhaps on a smaller scale and wants to discuss the matter with us.

It is hoped and expected that during the campaign months we shall be able to place full page or smaller size ads in a number of newspapers. Such advertising, however, should be on a more selective basis, concentrating on states where we will be (or hope to be) on the ballot. This being a national election year, the responses may be expected to be even better than in 1967. We know, of course, that to be really effective such advertising should be repeated several times, but with our limited financial resources we can hardly expect to be able to do this.

If our good friend continues to support this special method of

getting our program known, we may be able to advertise in the capitalist press on a large scale. We are truly grateful to our generous friend who is so profoundly stirred by the monstrous crimes committed against humanity by the criminal capitalist system. Our friend desires no reward except the satisfaction of having done what she could to deliver mankind from this evil of evils. Her insistence on anonymity attests to her utter selflessness in rendering her aid to our great, and eventually conquering cause.

SLP Speakers at High Schools Colleges and Universities

According to records at the National Office, SLP speakers made a total of 220 appearances at high schools, colleges and universities during the last four years (1964, 41; 1965, 46; 1966, 92; 1967, 40). The schools are far too numerous to list and cover a wide area.

We had the greatest degree of success in the following states (the figure in parenthesis indicating the number of schools at which student groups were addressed): Minnesota (33), New Jersey (33), California (31), Michigan (25), New York (18), Colorado (15), Wisconsin (11) and Ohio (11). Other states in which schools invited SLP speakers during the four-year period are: Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Washington.

Thirty or more SLP speakers fulfilled the 220 speaking assignments, among them H. Steiner (25), G. Cozzini (21), J. Levin (19), Eric Hass (15) and J. Pirincin (15).

The experiences of some of our state and local Subdivisions demonstrate convincingly that a well-planned follow-up program produces results, as was done by our Minnesota and New Jersey organizations in sending letters to schools and colleges early in the school term, with follow-up letters at appropriate intervals. There can be little doubt that if every state and/or local organization followed a well-organized campaign of contacting schools and colleges in its area, the number of opportunities for spreading the SLP message among students and teachers could be increased considerably. Wherever this is done, however, there must be reasonable assurance that a sufficient number of qualified speakers are available to accept the invitations that may be received. As has been stated before:

"It is essential that our speakers be prepared to give [sound, basic talks and] sound, basic answers in elementary, yet scientifically correct terms to the questions posed by the students. To do so they must be well prepared and alert to their opportunity. Only

then will the SLP speaker be able to enlighten the sincere, disarm the hostile and destroy the false illusions of the misinformed. In doing so, he will create respect for himself and raise the prestige of the Party, and, above all, set the SLP apart from all other organizations in the minds of these young people."

The number of qualified speakers who can make themselves available to fulfill such assignments (frequently during a working day) is all too limited. As a result, SLP Subdivisions are often forced to strike a balance between the extent of their efforts to secure opportunities for SLP speakers to address student groups and their available manpower. There have been occasions when invitations to send SLP speakers had to be turned down because no one was available at the particular time and place.

Campus Clubs

According to information at the National Office, there is at the present time one SLP campus club—this at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. It was organized in December of 1967. We do not know, however, how many members it has, nor who its officers are. The Club is functioning for we have reports of two public lectures which it scheduled, one on Feb. 8, this year, the other on March 4.

Study Classes and Discussion Groups

The number of study classes and discussion groups being conducted by SLP Subdivisions is still far below what it ought to be. There is also cause for concern in the disproportion between the number of study classes and the number of discussion groups. In 1959, for example, there were 35 study classes and 14 discussion groups. During the next several years the number of study classes dropped steadily. By 1963 there were 26 study classes and 25 discussion groups. Since then the number of discussion groups have outnumbered study classes. By 1966 there were only seven beginners' study classes and 26 discussion groups. Almost the same disproportion prevailed in 1967.

It is not the intention here to imply that discussion groups are undesirable or have no value as SLP educational media. However, they are not, and cannot be, substitutes for study classes, nor were they ever intended to be. Originally they were intended as an additional educational activity, a means through which new recruits could be developed for our formal study classes in areas where such were conducted regularly; or as a temporary thing in areas where we had not yet developed a sufficient number of interested indi-

viduals who could be organized into a formal study class, in short, a first step in the educational development of the new contact. Hence, the real success of our discussion groups ought properly to be measured by the increase in the number and size of our formal study classes.

Certainly, we are all agreed that study classes are of great importance to the welfare of the SLP. They are essential if we are to have a place to train properly prospective SLP members, to give them a solid grounding in basic Party principles and a comprehensive understanding of the Socialist Industrial Union program. If an individual joins the SLP after having gone through a well-conducted study class, there is justification for believing that he knows why he is joining, and that he is better equipped to resist frustration and possible disillusionment if the social revolution does not occur within a short time after he has been admitted to the Party. Even more important is the fact that a membership thoroughly acquainted with Marxian principles, and all that that implies, is the best guarantee for the continued existence of the Party on its sound, revolutionary basis.

As has been stated before, "study classes and particularly discussion groups should be restricted to those who are sincerely and seriously interested in studying Marxism and the SLP program. Under no circumstances should discussion groups be turned into a 'forum' for those whose sole interest is to air their own notions or obsessions. Discussion groups must center around SLP principles."

Some time last year the Pennsylvania SEC suggested that a guide for conduct of SLP discussion groups would be helpful. The NEC Sub-Committee concurred in the suggestion and instructed the National Office to prepare such a guide. After some unavoidable delay, it was completed and approved by the Sub-Committee. Each Section was supplied with a copy (in mimeographed form). It was generally well received, and was felt to fill a Party need.

In the year 1967 six Sections conducted eight study classes; five Sections had combined study classes and discussion groups; 22 Subdivisions conducted 26 discussion groups.

SLP Booths at State and County Fairs

SLP booths were set up and operated at the following State and County Fairs in 1967:

Los Angeles County,	Sept. 15-Oct. 1
Michigan State,	Aug. 25-Sept. 4
Minnesota State,	Aug. 26-Sept. 4

New Jersey State,
Wisconsin State,

Sept. 16-23
Aug. 11-20

Los Angeles, Calif.

In 1967, Section Los Angeles had a booth at the County Fair, which lasted for 17 days, and resulted in 455 pieces of literature being sold, amounting to \$93, 33,000 leaflets handed out, 335 WEEKLY PEOPLES sold or given away, a year's subscription purchased and 15 interest cards signed. These bare statistics do scant justice to the extraordinary efforts exerted in the planning and manning of the SLP booth, all of which was described in a 15-page report. The Fair Committee, consisting of seven members, met once a month throughout the year and was "in almost continuous session from one week before the Fair until closing night"!

This was the third time the Section participated in the Los Angeles County Fair, and there seemed to be unanimous agreement that the new background display was striking and impressive. Walter Steinhilber designed the background and did the artwork; Eric Hansen assembled and added to it, putting in many and long hours; Ray Berner completed the display with his expert electrical illumination. Other members contributed their special talents and in every sense this was a splendid cooperative effort.

There were incidents of harassment by Birchites and Nazi characters so that "only the calmest judgment prevented things from getting out of hand." These incidents led the Fair Committee to recommend that at least three (able-bodied) members must be in attendance at the booth at all times, instead of two. Under the head "The Outlook on Fairbooth Disturbances," the report stated:

"There are trends toward violence throughout the whole fabric of our [capitalist] society. The SLP cannot expect to be immune to possibilities of violence if it continues in an aggressive agitational posture. The fact that we have had no (physical) violence at the fair booth . . . is a reflection upon the quality of our membership conduct and ingenuity . . . Therein lies our strength in a minority organization, although proper security measures should be taken whenever possible.

"Booth worker training: If the reaction organizes itself to harass us, we should train ourselves to use organized countermeasures. In the course of such training we may discover tactics to make all of us more effective booth workers.

"There is need for a 'what to do when' school for all booth workers; to share data on how to size up and handle potential disturbances; to learn when and how to use a fast-lensed camera (which

trouble-makers detest) [the use of such a camera at the 1967 fair booth proved most effective in the handling of a hoodlum]; and consider the need for an under-the-counter telephone for a fast call to the police in case of trouble. One or two briefings before the fair opens should be sufficient.

"On the positive side, we could also train for more effective methods of selling our literature, subscriptions, getting interested names, invitations for candidates, and other opportunities for the Party."

The consensus was that while reaction was in greater evidence, there was also increased interest and receptiveness, and the committee concluded that despite the many frustrations and headaches, "the SLP County Fair Booth [is] an efficient and effective investment of time and money," being "an effective medium to get a hearing for the Party before nearly one million people who otherwise don't know we exist . . ."

One of the serious problems facing the Section is the high cost of participating in the Los Angeles County Fair, and it is fairly certain that if it is decided to rent space at the 1968 Fair, financial assistance will be requested from the California SEC and the National Organization.

Michigan

In submitting the report of the Michigan State Fair Committee, Comrade W. C. Bentley, State Secretary, wrote that "the outstanding fact about the 1967 display was that more than twice as many free leaflets were taken as were taken last year. A number of those who worked at the booth remarked on how many persons stopped and carefully selected leaflets." There were 17,465 leaflets taken, literature (sold or taken) amounted to \$86.90, and 2,350 copies of the WEEKLY PEOPLE were handed out.

"As with most SLP agitation," the committee commented, "the concrete or visible results of our booth at the fair are but a small part of its effectiveness. Many persons showed an interest who did not take literature or talk to us . . . We were aware of more off-hand references to our booth as 'communist' than for several years. Many persons who thus equated Russian communism with socialism were set straight."

From the set of photographs which accompanied the report of the Michigan State Fair Committee, the booth appeared to be most attractively set up and the backdrop presented a graphic story in a very limited space of "social evolution in America"; from "free enterprise" in 1790 when "4 [out] of 5 Americans worked for themselves and enjoyed all that they produced," to current capitalism

where "6 [out] of 7 work for others and yield most of their products to the employers"; the final poster describing Socialism, where "each of us will enjoy the full fruits of his labor . . ."

Minnesota

"1967 marks the 20th consecutive year that the SLP has exhibited at the Minnesota State Fair," wrote the Committee following the close of the Fair. The report went on: "Over the years countless numbers of people from the Midwest whom we would not otherwise be able to reach have been made aware of the SLP. More and more the younger people are showing an increasing concern about the dangers they face in this world they live in, which is most encouraging. Our booth at the fair enabled us to talk with many of these so concerned and explain to them the urgent need of getting rid of capitalism and replacing it with Socialism, their only hope for the future . . ."

The booth was adequately manned at all times. The assistance of Comrade John Carlson and his wife from Iowa was especially appreciated during the weekdays. They put in seven long days from opening to closing . . .

"There was little abusive heckling at the booth. One instance, a young man in uniform . . . another, a member of the John Birch Society . . . With such individuals it is impossible to reason, and all one can do is ignore them until they exhaust their vehemence and move on . . ."

"The results of the booth were as follows: 85 'introductory specials' sold; 28,775 leaflets taken from booth; 552 WEEKLY PEOPLES sold or given away; five one-year subscriptions; \$16 in contributions; 15 interested cards; total pieces of literature sold: 557."

New Jersey

The State Fair takes place each year in Trenton, the state capital. When application was made for space in 1967, one of the Fair officials informed the SEC that no space would be leased to the SLP unless there was a "substantial change" in our exhibit and "in the manner in which [we] staff [our] booth." Apparently complaints had been lodged with the officials. Correspondence and a conference followed which resulted in the matter being satisfactorily resolved, and space was leased. The location, however, proved to be a poor one, the SLP booth being surrounded by petty hucksters who created a "cheap carnival atmosphere."

The statistics of literature distributed were as follows: sales of pamphlets, \$13.05; 7,500 leaflets taken; 750 WEEKLY PEOPLES distributed.

The Fair Committee, in its detailed report, described the display,

the theme of which was "The Americanism of Socialism," as the "best overall booth display in the many years that we have participated at the Trenton State Fair. The petty merchants in the building looked with envy upon our impressive and professional display [the art work having been contributed by Walter Steinhilber]. Indeed, no other booth in the building could begin to compare with it. In fact, our booth ranked with the best on the fair grounds."

In describing the operation of the SLP booth, the Fair Committee reported:

"The procedure that was recommended and followed by most of those manning the booth was to sit back and let our overall display stimulate curiosity and/or interest. Only when such seemed aroused did we approach the individual and tell him that he could take an assortment of leaflets and we handed him a sample copy of the WEEKLY PEOPLE. We had assorted packets of leaflets prepared in advance . . . We would then invite him to peruse our pamphlet display and if he had any questions we would gladly answer them. This approach was completely devoid of high pressure and served as a screening procedure whereby those who were not interested, or possibly even hostile, would generally walk away without responding to our initial invitation that they take an assortment of leaflets."

There were a few incidents of harassment, but none of a serious nature.

Wisconsin

With "wonderful cooperation in tending the booth from outside Milwaukee [the Semraus from Florida, the Carlsons from Iowa and three members from Chicago], participation in the 1967 Wisconsin State Fair all adds up to a large task well done!" So wrote Comrade Georgia Cozzini a few days after the Fair was concluded. The detailed report submitted by Comrade Angeline Kleist gave these figures: 266 pieces of literature sold for \$66.95 (better than the previous year); two WP subscriptions (none in 1966); about 8,000 leaflets were taken (6,000 in 1966); 850 WPs given away (500 the previous year) and 30 copies sold; nine persons signed interest cards. Comrade Kleist commented: "Although improvement from last year was slight, the results, nevertheless, were gratifying and I believe worth all the time and hard work put into the booth, specially when we consider the atmosphere of fear and hate engendered in today's rotten capitalist society."

The Organizer of our Section in Rockford, Ill., George La Forest, informed the National Office that—

"On July 14 Section Rockford contracted with the Winnebago

County Fair Association for a 20-foot outdoor exhibit space at the Fair at Pecatonica, Illinois, Aug. 16-20. All proceeded completely without incident . . . until this evening (Aug. 19) at about 9 or 9:30 p.m., when the Secretary of the Winnebago County Fair Association . . . accompanied by two police officers, approached the SLP display, apologetically refunded our check of \$30 and told me that he had received many complaints, some from big Rockford employers, who had threatened physical violence against me . . . and told me our display must be removed. Seeing no alternative, I complied. Please advise concerning further action."

The National Secretary replied as follows:

"It was cowardly and contemptible of the Winnebago County Fair Association to cancel its contract with you for SLP exhibition space at the Fair just concluded simply because they had received 'complaints,' some, as you put it, 'from big Rockford employers.' The wretched association heard the master's voice, and obeyed its decree!

"Since this apparently is a private group, there seems to be nothing we can do about it. In any case, the Fair is now over, and to file suit for breach of contract would hardly seem warranted considering the cost . . ."

Comrade La Forest wrote that it seemed unlikely that the Section would take further action, adding: "We lost three days: one due to the cancellation, and two due to unforeseen preparations which I had to make. Since the Association refunded the whole check, we got two days free exhibition, so maybe we didn't do too badly after all."

Sundry Activities

The SLP Groups in Florida and Arizona continue their excellent work for the Party. As regards the Florida Groups, in Miami and St. Petersburg, their emphasis is on fund-raising and in this they are especially successful. The Miami Group in 1967 held socials and picnics through which they raised \$913 for the *WEEKLY PEOPLE* and *Radnicka Borba*. The St. Petersburg Group also raised substantial funds through holding picnics, etc., the total for the year divided between the *WEEKLY PEOPLE* and *Radnicka Borba* amounting to \$2,476. Discussion meetings are conducted by the Miami Group.

In Arizona, the Maricopa County Group conducts discussion meetings, sells or distributes *WEEKLY PEOPLES*, leaflets, holds fund-raising dinners with the cooperation of our two dedicated Tucson comrades, Justine and Lawrence Blackwell, who also make heavy financial contributions. These two comrades excel in distribution and sale of the *WEEKLY PEOPLE*, going out in all kinds of weather and

making many contacts. Currently they are getting ready to collect signatures to put the SLP ticket on the Arizona ballot with the help of the Phoenix members.

Comrade Max Banks is still being paid a nominal amount to enable him to give full time to SLP activities. Comrade Nick Mays participates actively in this work, rendering generous financial support, etc. These comrades have met with considerable interference, of which more under another head.

RADIO and TELEVISION

During the four-year period 1964-1967, the national, state and local organizations succeeded in obtaining 895 free radio and television programs totaling approximately 391 hours of air time. (These do not include spot announcements, newscasts or other news-type programs on which the Party or its candidates were mentioned briefly.) During this four-year period the Party purchased 161 radio time segments totaling 34½ hours of air time and 11 TV time segments totaling three hours. The bulk of these was purchased during the 1964 national campaign. The total for the four-year period, accordingly, was 1,067 radio and TV programs (366 in 1964, 168 in 1965, 413 in 1966 and 120 in 1967), the greater number of them being on radio, and with few exceptions each appearance involved but one station. As usual, these statistics have been gleaned from activity reports, city and state convention reports, campaign committee reports and correspondence, and are probably not complete.

*

Since 1959, the National Convention and NEC reports have carried detailed accounts of the broadcasters' persistent assaults on the equal time provision of the Communications Act. The assaults continue, despite the fact that amendments to Section 315 (passed by Congress in 1959), the periodic suspensions of Section 315, and the ever-changing rulings and interpretations by the FCC, have all but eliminated minority party candidates from the airwaves, particularly during national campaigns. In the past two years, backed up by newspaper editors and columnists, news commentators and politicians have extended their attack to include not only what is left of Section 315, but also the so called Fairness Doctrine, and the "personal attack" rulings of the FCC.

Each session of Congress witnesses the introduction of a number of bills, each aiming to amend the Communications Act so as to allow the broadcasters more and more freedom from government regulation in determining what and who is "newsworthy" and en-

titled to exposure over the publicly owned airwaves. 1967 was no exception, and early in June of that year it appeared that action on some of these bills was being contemplated. The Senate Communications Subcommittee scheduled hearings for mid-July and we requested an opportunity to send a Party representative to testify before the committee. The request was granted and Comrade Karp presented the Party's statement to the committee on July 20. This statement appeared in the July 29 issue of the WEEKLY PEOPLE and, accordingly, is not reprinted here. After the hearings no further congressional action was taken.

The broadcasters, however, have attacked on a new front—the federal courts. In mid-November, 1967, the Radio and Television News Directors Association (RTNDA), CBS and NBC challenged the "Fairness Doctrine" in the Federal Appeals Court in Chicago. The case is still pending.

Another case is pending in the U.S. Supreme Court. In this case (known as the Red Lion Case) Radio Station WGCB of Red Lion, Pa., is asking the Supreme Court to upset a lower court's ruling in which the "constitutionality of the [Fairness] doctrine" was upheld.

The King Broadcasting Co. of Seattle has filed a suit in the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals challenging the FCC's application of the Fairness Doctrine to editorial endorsements of candidates by radio and TV stations.

The National Association of Broadcasters is also challenging in the courts the FCC's application of the Fairness Doctrine to cigarette advertising. Two stations have filed separate suits (supported by various broadcast interests) also challenging this action by the FCC.

All the cases are still pending at this writing. There is little doubt that the primary motive behind all these court actions is to undermine the principle of government regulation of broadcast licenses. Apparently the broadcasters believe that the Fairness Doctrine, which over the years the FCC has applied in erratic and frequently contradictory fashion, is the weak link in the FCC's rules and regulations, and thus offers the best opening through which to attack the whole concept of FCC regulation.

The announcement by President Johnson that he will not seek reelection has resulted in a renewed demand by the broadcasters for suspension of Section 315 for the duration of the 1968 campaign. Chances are the demand will be successful, at least with respect to candidates for President and Vice President. It is generally the incumbent who is reluctant to engage in pre-election debates, and none were staged in 1964. It was Johnson who scotched the attempt then

to suspend the law, but his withdrawal from the race has kindled the fires for action on Section 315. There are bills pending in the Senate that aim to suspend that section of the Communications Act and since hearings were already held on them last year, they can be reported out of committee and acted upon very quickly. In the House of Representatives Congressman Lionel Van Deerlin (D-Calif.) has now introduced a bill which is patterned after the 1960 suspension bill. There is no indication at this time whether or when hearings will be held on this bill.

All in all, we can have little hope of getting any sizeable amount of broadcast time during the 1968 campaign unless we buy it.

BALLOT MATTERS

In the 1964 National elections, despite many difficult problems, the Party qualified its presidential ticket for the ballot in 16 of the 17 states in which the effort was made. (The one exception was Illinois, where we were ruled off on a technicality.) We conducted write-in campaigns in eight additional states. Whether we can equal this record in 1968 is at the moment open to serious question.

Usually by convention time the National Office has checked the election laws in all the states and is familiar with all the changes that may have been made. However, at this writing we have checked the laws in only about ten states, including those where signature gathering takes place prior to the National Convention. For reasons fairly obvious (internal problems, etc.), we simply have not had the time to check the rest. A close watch is kept throughout the year on election law changes, so the following is a fairly accurate picture of the ballot problems facing us in 1968 in those states where we normally appear on the ballot or conduct write-in-vote campaigns.

To date there have been no changes in the election laws in the following states that would adversely affect the SLP: Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington. Our problems in some of these states, however, have increased for other reasons. In Kansas and New Mexico, for example, it is extremely doubtful that we can muster the necessary local manpower to do the necessary. In Indiana there has been talk that the election officials plan to apply the strict letter of existing laws. What this usually means is a more stringent interpretation of ambiguous provisions which appear in the laws of every state, invoking vague and meaningless technicalities and the like.

In Pennsylvania we are already experiencing greater difficulties than in the past, though there has been no change in the law. One of the provisions in the election law states that the officials "shall be entitled to a reasonable time in which to examine any petition . . ." In the past, the petition was generally accepted at its face value. But in 1967 the County election board in Philadelphia checked the signatures on our mayoralty nominating petition and rejected more than one-third of them as invalid. In consequence we were ruled off the ballot. On March 5, 1968, the Pennsylvania state organization filed our national and state nominating petition containing a surplus of signatures close to 50%. This petition is also being checked, and the Pennsylvania SEC has been informed that the result will not be known for several months.

In Delaware the election law was changed in 1966 in such manner as to make it impossible for the SLP to qualify. In April, 1967, the House of Representatives of Delaware passed a bill removing the most restrictive part of the 1966 provision. The bill, however, has been buried in committee in the State Senate. Unless it is passed it will be impossible to place our national candidates on the Delaware ballot.

In Wisconsin our problems are increased by a change in the law requiring that "Nomination papers for presidential electors list one presidential elector from each congressional district . . ." Our alert Wisconsin Campaign Committee is giving early attention to the solving of this problem and we are confident it will succeed.

In the 1967 Report to the NEC, it was reported that the Michigan SEC was planning to enter the Prohibition Party's court case challenging the Michigan election laws in the U.S. Supreme Court. This never materialized. On April 24, 1967, the Court dismissed the Prohibition Party's appeal "for want of jurisdiction," without hearings. Accordingly, an opportunity for our Michigan Party to file an amicus curiae brief never presented itself.

Under date of Sept. 11, 1967, Comrade W. C. Bentley, Michigan State Secretary, reported that Comrade Leo Churulich had been attacked while gathering signatures in Muskegon. Comrade Bentley described the incident as follows:

"After he had been working nearly six hours and after he had obtained 63 signatures on a number of petition sheets, Comrade Churulich was approached by a man described as a big six-footer, who asked what he was doing. After Comrade Churulich explained,

the man offered to sign and took the clip board holding the petitions. Instead of signing it, he scrawled across it, diagonally, 'Gus Hall, Chicago, Communist.' When Comrade Churulich remonstrated with him, he attacked Churulich, knocked him to the pavement, tore the petition board away from him and fled with it. Churulich pursued him in a chase that lasted about twenty minutes and during which he lost sight of the man for some time, later spotting him in a park area. He hailed a police scout car and asked their help. They caught the man and took him and Churulich to police headquarters, where they questioned both. Comrade Churulich insisted that it was imperative that the petitions (which had disappeared) be found, mainly to protect the persons who had signed them from possible violence at the hands of the man in custody or others like him. By threatening the man with a charge of assault and battery, and a possible 15 year sentence, they induced him to tell them that he had dropped the petitions into a waste basket in a library into which he had slipped while out of Churulich's sight. There they were found, having been torn diagonally into four parts."

During the interrogation at police headquarters the attacker declared that he was a "Minute Man," and bragged that he would do it gain if he had the chance.

The National Office expressed the view that assault and battery charges should be pressed against the hoodlum. Comrade Churulich, however, for a number of pressing personal reasons did not wish to do so, and the matter was not pursued.

Early in 1967, the Ohio SEC received copies of correspondence between the Assistant Legal Director of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Chairman of the "Free Ballot Committee of the Ohio Civil Liberties Union" that rekindled hope that something might finally be done to contest the restrictive Ohio election laws in the courts. Comrade Joseph Pirincin and the Ohio SEC followed up the matter persistently, and after considerable correspondence and discussion, the Ohio Civil Liberties Union agreed to file suit on behalf of the Socialist Labor Party challenging the Ohio election laws, specifically "seeking to void Ohio statutes which limit access to the ballot, and which prohibit write-in voting," as the ACLU Bulletin of Jan. 29, 1968, put it.

The suit, which was prepared by three ACLU attorneys, was filed in the Federal District Court in Cleveland on Jan. 11, 1968. A detailed account of the case was published in the WEEKLY PEOPLE of Feb. 24, 1968, and it seems pointless to repeat it here. The ACLU is paying all expenses out of contributions. The Ohio SEC has con-

tributed \$100.

In reporting that the suit had been filed, Comrade Pirincin wrote under date of Jan. 16: "Our SEC felt real good about the fact that the legal action was started. For twenty years we have been phoning, writing letters, passing resolutions, etc., etc., and it all seemed hopeless. Finally, something has happened—the fat is in the fire, though none of us, at this point, can be certain of the outcome. We'll keep trying, harder and harder."

We do not know when a decision may be rendered in this case. In such matters courts generally move at a snail's pace. We have had no word of progress being made at this writing.

The ballot problems we face in 1968 are many and serious. But they are not insurmountable. The extent to which we shall surmount them will depend on intelligent planning and the wholehearted support and cooperation of every dedicated and determined SLP member and supporter.

STATE OF ORGANIZATION

Party Membership

The membership of the Party remains substantially unchanged. In 1967 we suffered a loss of 14 members through death, five were dropped by Sections for non-payment of dues, six resigned, and eleven were expelled. The Federations lost 13 members through death. Twenty-five transfers were effected; 21 new members were added. Total net loss in 1967 was 15.

Section Palo Alto, Calif., was expelled on Aug. 2, 1967, five loyal members being transferred to Section San Francisco, one of whom (a new member) subsequently resigned. Section St. Clair County, Ill., was disbanded (Aug. 23) and all but one member were transferred to Section Peoria, Ill. Disbanded also was Section Astoria, Ore. (Sept. 13), long a numerically weak Section, kept somewhat active through the efforts of our late Comrade C. H. Svenson, an outstanding example of SLP loyalty and devotion.

There is a total of 46 organized Sections and 22 Federation Branches, and, as previously mentioned in this report, several groups in outlying areas performing good work for the Party. In 1967 we had ten WEEKLY PEOPLE Clubs.

There are twelve well functioning State Executive Committees and two Language Federations—Bulgarian and South Slavonian. We have 49 national members-at-large, scattered throughout the country.

Sections and Branches

The Sections and Federation Branches are located in the various states as follows:

California:

We now have three Sections in this state: Los Angeles, Oakland and San Francisco, and an efficient State Committee. There are two Federation Branches in Los Angeles. All three Sections are active in various fields of Party activities. They all excel in the operation of WEEKLY PEOPLE self-service stands, without neglecting other important SLP work.

Colorado:

The only Section in this state is in Denver, which carries on Party work persistently and effectively.

Connecticut:

This state has two Sections—Bridgeport and South Norwalk, and a State Executive Committee. The state has suffered a great deal through the death of some of its most active members and illnesses of others, besides the defection of some who apparently had become pessimistic by reason of the failure of the workers to flock in numbers into the Party. In short, results, as they had visualized them, did not come up to their expectations.

Section Bridgeport has been particularly hard hit, but is now showing unmistakable signs of staging a come-back, thanks in large measure to the effective work of Comrade Sonja Johnson and the addition of a new young member who is very active.

District of Columbia:

Section Washington obviously is unable to accomplish much in a "city" whose main "industry" is capitalist politics. The Section is however, a liberal contributor to Party funds.

Illinois:

There are three Sections in this state: Cook County (Chicago), Peoria and Rockford, all active and doing well. There are four Federation Branches: Bulgarian and South Slavonian in Chicago; Bulgarian Branches in Madison and Zeigler. The State Executive Committee is an experienced body and alert to opportunities to further the Party's program.

Indiana:

The state organization is confronted with serious difficulties but is doing good work, particularly in placing Party literature in public

and university libraries throughout the state. There are three Sections: Evansville, Fort Wayne and St. Joseph County (South Bend-Mishawaka). One Bulgarian Federation Branch is in Fort Wayne.

Massachusetts:

There are three Sections in this state: Boston, Lynn and Waltham. They carry on Party work steadily, with an efficient State Committee.

Michigan:

There are three active Sections in this state and a most efficient State Committee. The Sections are in Wayne County (Detroit), Pontiac and Washtenaw County. Much good work is being done in this state in all fields of agitation, the two first named especially notable for making heavy financial contributions to Party funds. There are Bulgarian and South Slavonian Branches in Detroit.

Minnesota:

There are two Sections in this state: Minneapolis and St. Louis County (in the Duluth area). Section Minneapolis is particularly active and resourceful, doing excellent Party work. The same can be said for the Minnesota State Executive Committee.

Missouri:

There is still only one Section in this state, Section St. Louis. It is carrying on Party work steadily, but without fanfare. There is also a Bulgarian Federation Branch in St. Louis.

New Jersey:

This state has three Sections and a State Executive Committee carrying on Party activities effectively and with notable results. The three Sections are: Essex County (Newark), Camden County and Passaic County. There is a South Slavonian Branch in Hoboken.

New York:

There are seven Sections in this state, most of them doing effective Party work. They are: Erie County (Buffalo,) Jamestown, Kings County, Monroe County (Rochester), New York, Oneida County (Utica), and Onondaga County (Syracuse). The State Committee is efficient and well conducted. There are Bulgarian Branches in Lackawanna and Syracuse and a South Slavonian Branch in New York City.

Ohio:

There are four active Sections in this state: Akron, Cleveland,

Dayton and Steubenville, with good prospects of organizing a Section in Cincinnati in the near future. There are seven Federation Branches in Ohio, as follows: Bulgarian in Barberton, Mansfield and Toledo; South Slavonian in Akron, Cleveland, Steubenville and Youngstown. Despite its being barred from the ballot, the state organization carries on Party activities with zest and vigor as if the comrades expected victory at the ballot box next election!

Oregon:

There is now only one Section in this state, Portland, as active as circumstances and resources permit, and the circumstances during these trying days are not propitious. Yet here, as elsewhere, we shall witness the day when the Party's revolutionary banner shall fly from this capitalist citadel on the shores of the Pacific.

Pennsylvania:

Four sections and an efficient State Committee constitute the state organization in the historic State of Pennsylvania. The four Sections are: Allegheny County (Pittsburgh), Dauphin County (Harrisburg), Greensburg and Philadelphia. The latter is the largest Section in the state and accounts for some of the most varied Party activities conducted in the state.

Washington:

There are a State Committee and three functioning Sections in this state: Everett, Grays Harbor and Tacoma. Seattle is nominally a Section, but with an insufficient resident membership. Seattle has had members added, only to have them transferred to other Sections. For the present the outlook for its survival is not good. Seattle is included in Comrade Steiner's Pacific Coast itinerary, and following his visit a determination will be made as to future prospects.

Wisconsin:

Milwaukee is the only Section in this state, but it often gives the impression of doing the work of several! Accordingly, there is no State Committee, but there is a State Campaign Committee which serves as its equivalent, supervising state campaign activities. There is a South Slavonian Branch in Milwaukee.

LANGUAGE FEDERATIONS

Here follow reports of our two Language Federations for 1967:

Bulgarian Socialist Labor Federation

To the 27th National Convention of the
Socialist Labor Party, 1968

Dear Comrades:

In the last five years the Bulgarian Socialist Labor Federation suffered two terrible blows which almost proved fatal to our Federation. On July 5, 1963, Theodore Baeff, our Secretary-Treasurer for 50 years, died. He held office for the entire history of the organization up to the time of his death. His death concluded a life of a heart and mind that was completely devoted to Marxian Socialism. A chapter of the history of the Bulgarian Socialist Labor Federation was closed.

We found ourselves in what appeared an impossible situation. By his devotion and ability he had guided the Federation for 50 years through all the trials and problems which had beset a revolutionary organization. What were we to do? At the 50th Convention of the Federation in Akron, three months after the death of Comrade Baeff, we decided to carry on. Comrade Nathan Karp, the Party's Fraternal Delegate, by his inspiring words and practical advice, encouraged us to go on with our appointed SLP task of holding the Federation together. The Convention delegates adopted a resolution to seek out members who would accept the responsibility of acting as Secretary-Treasurer and Editor of the *Rabotnicheska Prosveta*. After much discussion, Comrade Peter Stayanoff agreed to accept the post of Secretary-Treasurer if the headquarters could be moved from Granite City, Ill., to Detroit. He felt that the Detroit Branch members would supply the necessary help to him. The post of Editor was accepted by Comrade Christ Oundjieff.

The enormous task of moving the literature, records, etc., from Granite City to Detroit was undertaken. Without the intelligent and tireless help of Comrade Joseph Pirincin, the operation could never have been completed. In the moving Comrade Joseph Pinter of Section Washtenaw County was also of great help. He supplied the truck for transportation. In characteristic SLP fashion, we overcame all the obstacles. Our headquarters was established in Detroit and a print shop to handle the *Rabotnicheska Prosveta* was found. Details of this operation have been covered in the National Convention report in 1964.

Despite the lack of experience of the Secretary-Treasurer and Editor, the Federation managed to survive, and the principles of our Marxist-De Leonist program continued to be conveyed to the Bulgarian-speaking workers.

But on Nov. 23, 1967, the grim reaper, Death, struck at the Federation again. Comrade Peter Stayanoff, our Secretary-Treasurer,

died suddenly in his hotel room. During the brief time he had held his responsible post, he had devoted many hours to a variety of assignments in which he had no background training, and had performed with great credit to himself and to the Federation. He was a devoted SLP revolutionary. He is greatly missed by his comrades. He had been sick for many months, but did not shirk his Federation duties.

Again the Federation was dealt a heavy blow, and another crisis was faced. I notified all the Central Committee members to attend a meeting on Nov. 27. At this meeting, a local Branch member with some experience in financial matters accepted the post of Secretary-Treasurer with promise of help from Comrade James Sim. Again Comrade Pirincin was of great assistance to us. Unfortunately, the member who had accepted the post notified me that after consideration he could not serve in this capacity. Another crisis. Again Comrade Pirincin was notified to help us. A meeting was called for Dec. 11, at which Comrade Trundoff, Central Committee member, and Comrades Pirincin, Sim, Miroff and myself were present. Comrade Sim was appointed Acting Treasurer and Comrade Chris Oundjieff as Acting Secretary. This action was subsequently approved by the Federation's Central Committee.

Here I must express my appreciation for Comrades Sim's willingness to help the Federation in its time of trouble and problems. It would have been impossible for me to both edit the *Rabotnicheska Prosveta* and also accept the duties of Secretary-Treasurer. Comrade Sim deserves the thanks of all of us, not only for his assistance, but also his Party work, speaking engagements and his work in the factory. As for me, I accept the latest work as long as physically possible, and with the invaluable help of Comrade Sim, until the next Federation Convention in October. At least this arrangement will not add another burden to the Party during the election campaign. We have no alternative. We must carry on at any cost.

As for the state of the Federation, I can report that we still have a field among the Bulgarian-speaking workers for our revolutionary SLP education. Some members and subscribers have been lost by the march of the grim reaper. Our organization has ten Branches, 78 members, and 465 *Rabotnicheska Prosveta* subscribers. I am convinced that the time has not yet come to quit and close the pages of the history of our fighting Federation. We are still able to go on financially and physically with our educational work. It is true that most of us are advanced in years, but to close out our history now would be a great loss to the SLP, financially and in morale. There were members who were considering the dissolution of the

Federation even before the death of Comrade Baeff, but the organization still functions, though not with the numbers of the past, which under the circumstances must be expected. As is well known, the Federations have no material from which to draw new recruits; but we have been faced with this condition since the end of World War II and it is not a recent development. Carry on, must be our battle cry!

Since the 1967 NEC Session, four active and devoted members have been lost by death. Their places, their activities, their devotion cannot be wholly filled in our ranks. Nicola Tsoneff, Kosta Marinoff, Luba Gramaticoff and Peter Stayanoff. We sorely miss and deeply mourn them.

At this time I cannot submit a financial report. As Comrade Sim has notified the National Office, the inefficient and irresponsible accountant we hired suddenly gave up our account in favor of more lucrative operations. At this late date, and with all bookkeeping companies engaged in income-tax reports until April 15, it is impossible to find an accountant who will work on our books until after the above date. As soon as possible after April 15 the books will be audited and the report submitted.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Bulgarian Socialist Labor Federation members, I assure the 27th National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party that our Federation is the voice and organization of genuine Marxism and fighting De Leonism amongst Bulgarian-speaking workers in the United States and abroad.

Fraternally submitted,

[signed] CHRISTO M. OUNDJIEFF
Acting Secretary, Bulgarian
Socialist Labor Federation.

April 4, 1968.

South Slavonian Socialist Labor Federation

To the 27th National Convention
of the Socialist Labor Party.
Greetings:

Reporting to the National Executive Committee SLP in 1967 Session, we stated that we had 10 Branches and 88 members in good standing. Since then, no new member was admitted, but we lost seven members: six through death and one dropout for non-payment of dues. As of Dec. 31, 1967, we still had 10 branches and 81 members in good standing.

Those lost to us through death were: Jack Klaich, John Arbet,

Carl Besser, Anna Sekulich, Louis Sibul and Gavra Baljevich.

We have Branches in the following cities: Akron, Cleveland, Steubenville and Youngstown, Ohio; New York, N.Y.; Hoboken, N. J.; Detroit, Mich.; Chicago, Ill.; Milwaukee, Wis.; and Los Angeles, Calif. We still have two groups of De Leonist followers in South America: Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Montevideo, Uruguay.

As previously reported to the National Office, at the 1967 Federation Convention we celebrated the 60th anniversary of *Radnicka Borba* and of the Federation itself. It was an outstanding convention in every respect, affording all of us great pleasure.

At this convention, the problem of continued publication of *Radnicka Borba* was presented and the Federation Secretary discussed it at length. The convention concurred in the recommendation of the Central Committee in its report, namely that *Radnicka Borba* be printed twice monthly in tabloid format by Art Design Composition, Inc., at the cost of \$230 per issue. This convention mandate was carried out, beginning with the first issue in 1968.

Before this change was effected, we had two writers (contributors) supplying copy, Comrades Louis Petrovich and Joseph Pirincin. At his own request, Comrade Pirincin has been relieved of further writing for *Radnicka Borba*. So at present we have only one regular contributor, Comrade Petrovich. Comrade Peter Slepceovich, the Federation Secretary, as an appointed Acting Editor, is doing the rest: reading proof, preparing layout, preparing Branch records and announcements, occasionally writing articles, etc.

Thus, the problem of publishing *Radnicka Borba* is solved, at least for the time being. But the circulation of *Radnicka Borba* presents a very serious problem. For the circulation has steadily declined from year to year. Our 1967 Federation convention wrestled with this problem and, on recommendation of the convention committee, the Central Committee was instructed to attempt to find and employ a capable comrade to search for new readers of *Radnicka Borba* and to sell Party literature, particularly among the new Yugoslav emigrants in Canada. Unfortunately, the convention's instructions could not be carried out, and the prospects of so doing are not very bright.

As to the problem of a Federation Secretary, last year's convention was unable to find a comrade willing to accept this post. Comrade Slepceovich, the present Federation Secretary, then accepted the nomination. In doing so, he told the delegates that this would be his final acceptance of the post. The convention instructed the Central Committee to search for a comrade to be recommended to

the 1968 convention as Federation Secretary.

At the 1967 convention a resolution was presented, proposing to disband the Federation and discontinue publication of *Radnicka Borba*. It was rejected unanimously. This action of the convention attested that the Federation membership is determined to continue with our SLP revolutionary activities as long as humanly possible.

There is no doubt that the situation in and around the Federation is very serious. As we have stated, the circulation of *Radnicka Borba* is declining rapidly; the sale of our literature approaching zero; our members are advanced in years, gradually passing away, and our field rapidly drying up.

Yet, in spite of all these difficulties, we are determined to do our best.

The Federation receipts and expenditures for the calendar year ended June 30, 1967, follow: Balance July 1, 1966, \$16,081.39; receipts \$20,885.97; total \$36,967.36. Expenditures \$18,243.02. Balance June 30, 1967, \$18,724.34. During this period we sent to the National Office for the Party's various funds, \$5,075.

Faternally submitted,

Central Committee South Slavonian SLP,

[signed] PETER SLEPCEVICH

National Secretary.

March 24, 1968.

As is self-evident from the reports of our two Language Federations, both are hard beset and in serious trouble. Death has robbed the Federations of some of their most active and capable members. Added to this is the increasing number of aging and ailing members, all of which creates a problem seemingly incapable of solution. Basic to the creation of these problems of the Federations is the alleged fact pointed to in the reports—the “drying up” of new membership material from the old countries, though it has been contended that this source has not yet been exhausted.

SLP Language Federations have been a powerful source of strength to the Party, not merely financial (though that has been outstanding), but also in giving the Party some of its ablest spokesmen and writers, even in the English-speaking field. To mention just a few, we note particularly such men as the scholarly Theodore Baeff, the able National Secretary of the Bulgarian Federation for half a century or so, the vallant Theodore Gramaticoff and D. D. Dobreff; also D. Draganoff and D. Anastasoff; Nicholas Stanich, former Editor of *Radnicka Borba* and Lazar Stefanovich, and never forgetting that staunch comrade of the (now lapsed) Hungarian

Federation, Theodore Vaszily, who departed this life in 1960 as he was preparing to go on the road for the Federation. There are others, fortunately still with us.

To repeat, the Party's Language Federations—Scandinavian, Hungarian, Bulgarian and South Slavonian—have contributed mightily to the Party's fruitful activities during the past fifty or sixty years, thereby earning their niches in the Proletarian Marxist Hall of Fame.

INTERNATIONAL SLP ACTIVITIES

Special Language Committees

There are no reports from the German and Esperanto Committees which now hardly function at all. Partly due to Comrade Emil F. Teichert's state of health, and partly because of the inability of the few SLP representatives in Germany to form an organized SLP body, continuing contact with these German sympathizers is limited to occasional correspondence between Comrade Teichert and Fritz Holler and Reinhold Grabsch. Eventually the Germans who claim to be Marxists will have to come around to an unqualified acceptance of the De Leonist principles and program, with whatever incidental adjustments may be necessary and logical in their application to the conditions in Germany. Occasionally we receive inquiries about our Esperanto literature and this is supplied by Comrade Benson Perry.

Canada

A summary of the activities of our Canadian sister organization follows:

Mr. Arnold Petersen,
SLP of America.

Dear Comrade Petersen:

The following is a summary of Party activity in Canada for the year 1967.

Section Montreal consistently mails out copies of the WEEKLY PEOPLE, leaflets and the *Socialist Press Bulletin* to contacts, thus making hundreds of people aware of the SLP and its program. Comrade Serge Huard carries on regular activity among French-Canadian workers. He recently translated the Party's statement, “Socialism Means . . .” into French. It is hoped that in the near future Section Montreal may be able to publish this and other SLP literature in French. Comrade Grossman maintains contact with some

University students. One of them brought our attention to a French edition of Lenin's works in which it was revealed that Lenin had intended to have De Leon's "Two Pages from Roman History" translated into Russian. This historic fact was mentioned in the WEEKLY PEOPLE issue of Dec. 17, 1966.

Section York County (Toronto) carries on its considerable activities consistently. The highlight of its work during the past year was its participation in the Ontario Provincial elections in the Riding of Riverdale. Special campaign leaflets were prepared and given widespread distribution. Every home in Riverdale was covered at least once, and one-third of these homes were covered at least twice. The result was a considerable increase in the vote for the SLP candidate, Comrade W. B. Hendry.

Section Vancouver also carries on SLP activities consistently, distributing leaflets, operating self-service newsstands, writing letters to the press, etc. This, despite a number of difficult local circumstances. During Comrade H. Steiner's brief annual visit to Vancouver, Aug. 11-13, several successful activities were conducted, including a public meeting, radio talk and social affair. As usual, Comrade and Mrs. Siden were in great measure responsible for the success of the social affair.

All the national members-at-large keep in close touch with the National Office and carry on as much activity as their circumstances permit. Until recently, when he was physically incapacitated, Comrade R. Dunk did considerable leaflet distribution, despite his advanced age. Comrade A. Trudeau conducts an extensive mailing campaign in the Huntsville area. In Ottawa, Comrades G. Cameron and D. Irving serve as a propaganda committee and also carry on an extensive mailing campaign. In reporting these activities Comrade Cameron commented that despite the absence of visible results "the all-important message of Marxism-De Leonism was brought before some 450 people in Ottawa and the vicinity." And Comrade Cameron concluded his report on this high note: "We will maintain our activities here firm in our conviction that Socialism ultimately must, and will be, achieved through the political and economic organization of the working class."

The optimism and determination of all these SLP outposts are an inspiration to all of us.

With the cooperation of the Toronto members, the National Office continues to conduct a study class in Hamilton. During 1967, the class met once a month from January to May. In April a public meeting was held with Comrade H. Rowbottom as speaker. The attendance and results were fair. Following the May session the class ad-

journed for the summer months. It did not reconvene until November owing to the campaign. Comrade Hendry of Toronto, the instructor, is quite enthusiastic about the interest shown and progress being made by those attending, expressing the opinion that in the near future the Hamilton comrades may take over the conduct of this class.

*

The *Socialist Press Bulletin* is published regularly every month. Its circulation includes readers in the United States, Great Britain and Australia. Comrades Minal, I. Moss and A. Sanderson are the main contributors of articles. The *Bulletin* is circulated without charge. However, we receive unsolicited contributions which go a long way to help defray the costs. Our readers also responded to appeals for funds published in the *Bulletin*, notably for the Convention and for the Ontario election campaign.

During the year the Party printed 70,000 leaflets. This represents an increase of 20,000 over 1966.

*

In October we were notified that the building in which the National Office is located had been sold. Our five-year lease was due to expire in December. Immediate application for a renewal of our lease was made to the new owner. The best we could do was to obtain a two-year lease at a 25% increase in rent. There is little doubt that in two years there will be another increase in rent. In fact, there is a strong possibility that we may be unable to re-lease the premises. It is an eventuality to which we must give some consideration and make preparations to meet.

Because of illness the National Secretary was for a period totally, and is yet partially, incapacitated. This, of course, created some difficulty, and placed extra burdens on the Toronto members. But with close cooperation, particularly the Comrades A. Sanderson and D. Marcoff, the situation was met, and Party business conducted efficiently.

Despite our shortcomings and difficulties, we look to the future with confidence and with the realization that only the working class, organized politically and industrially into Socialist Industrial Unions as advocated by the SLP, can put an end to this ruthless despotism of human exploitation.

Fraternally,
H. C. Risley,
National Secretary.

March, 1968.

The problems, trials and tribulations of the Canadian SLP in

some respects parallel those of our Party, but the comrades pursue their important work undismayed and undeterred. It had been expected that Comrade H. C. Risley, veteran National Secretary, would have been with us as the Canadian Party's fraternal delegate, but unfortunately a prolonged illness prevented him from coming. However, we greet with pleasure the alternate delegate, Comrade W. Hendry, who will ably represent this organization.

Australia

The SLP of Australia has suffered adversities beyond what is normally expected of a revolutionary Marxist party. Illness and other misfortunes struck its most active members. Some of these problems were reported in a summary received from the National Corresponding Secretary, Comrade Frank Prince belatedly in June, 1967, but in time to include it in the printed proceedings of the 1967 NEC Session. We have just received the following from Comrade Prince, dated April 18, 1968:

Mr. Arnold Petersen,
SLP of America.

Dear Comrade Petersen:

The following is a summary of our activities since June, 1967. I'm pleased to be able to say that this year has seen a great improvement, qualitatively and quantitatively, upon the past few years. Particularly has the improvement shown itself in the past 7 or 8 months.

National Organization

1. Headquarters.

Our headquarters are at 123 Cardigan Street, Stanmore, although most of our meetings are held in private homes. At headquarters we have the printing press, the literature, the signs and speaker's platform, etc. It is used very frequently for all work except study classes and discussion meetings held by Section Sydney.

2. Printing Press and *The People*.

a. When we moved to Stanmore in April, 1967, the press had to be dismantled. Due to lack of funds we were unable to get it re-assembled until about a month ago. Fortunately, one of our recent sympathizers, Philip McLeod, is a mechanic and with the help of Ray O'Conal he got the press working. Since then we have printed 2200 "The Union that 'Jack' Built" leaflets, and have run through one side of 2,000 "Greatest Robbery in History" leaflets.

b. *The People*. This year we have not produced *The People*. The

main reason was lack of finances. However, we are going to have an issue out mid-June. It is our intention to try to bring our paper out more frequently but reduce the number of pages to 20. We regret not having published *The People* this year and will do our best to bring it out regularly.

Because of our conscious efforts to solve our financial problems we are in the position where the Party has no debts outstanding except those with the WEEKLY PEOPLE and New York Labor News.

c. Literature and WEEKLY PEOPLE. In the period under review we sold approximately 1250 copies of the WEEKLY PEOPLE and 280 pamphlets—at the Domain, to the Victoria Labor College, bookstalls and bookshops.

Section Sydney

Activities in Section Sydney have been of a more varied nature this year and have widened much in recent months. The Section's main activities are Domain meetings, study classes, discussion meetings, and general work.

Domain Meetings.

These have been maintained every Sunday afternoon, weather permitting. Comrades Brian Blanchard and Frank Mulheron are our main speakers. Comrade David Blance has on a number of occasions acted as chairman, giving a ten-minute speech on the Party programme.

You will recall that we have at the Domain Meetings a display of pamphlets, papers, signs and posters. This year has seen an increase in this work. New signs and display racks have been made and we now have about 20 posters, two large signs and numerous montages of cartoons, cuttings, quotations, etc.

Our pamphlets are displayed in two structures which contain 42 titles. The WEEKLY PEOPLE, *The People*, *The Socialist Press Bulletin* and *The Socialist*, are also displayed each Sunday.

The work being done by sympathizers at the Domain meetings is very important, from carting, erecting and dismantling the displays, to looking after the literature stands, etc.

2. Study Classes.

Study classes are held every Sunday night. Since March this year we had held a special study class every Saturday night for Party members. At the Sunday night classes we study SLP literature. At the Saturday classes we have been going through "Capital." All study classes are conducted by Comrade Monica Prince.

3. Discussion Meetings.

On occasions, the Sunday night meetings have been turned into

discussion meetings. Recently we decided that this side of our activities should be expanded. We now meet every Wednesday night. One of the main reasons for this decision has been the need to strengthen ties with Party supporters by having times when they could meet members in less formal circumstances than study classes, etc. These meetings have already generated much practical work. They also afford members and sympathizers an opportunity to express themselves (lectures, talks, general discussion, etc.).

4. General Work.

a. Newsstands. One of the most important tasks being done on a regular basis is servicing of newsstands with WEEKLY PEOPLE and *Radnicka Borba*.

b. Leaflet Distribution this year has not been done to any great extent, although one of our sympathizers has done some leafleting on his own initiative. Material has been put into letterboxes in the area around headquarters.

c. Special functions. Each year functions are held to mark the anniversary of De Leon's birth, the Paris Commune and May Day. On each occasion a fine meal was prepared by Comrade Jim Prince's wife, Joan.

For May Day this year we are to make special efforts. Our address has been stamped on 2000 back issues of the WEEKLY PEOPLE and 4000 leaflets printed. We have also prepared a new leaflet to be printed for distribution with the 2000 WEEKLY PEOPLE back issues to be given away on May Day.

d. Miscellaneous. In June last year a debate was held between the SLP and the Eureka Youth League. Brian Blanchard represented us and a member of the Communist Party spoke on behalf of the League. Brian wiped the floor with his opponent. We were thanked for coming along and assured that we would be invited again. Needless to say, we never heard from them. The subject of the debate was "Is the USSR a Socialist Country?"

e. Sympathizers. It is some years since the work of sympathizers played an important part in our activities. It is pleasing to say that help received from sympathizers is part explanation of the increased activity of recent months. Assistance from sympathizers of great importance was rendered at the Domain, at study classes, in printing work and in other ways. Their presence at Domain meetings may explain in part the improvement in audience reception—it certainly is reflected in the amount of display material on show and the attention given to papers and pamphlets.

Conclusion

We wish to convey to you comrades in America our appreciation of the work you are doing. Most of our work is made possible by the wonderful example we have "pictured" in the WEEKLY PEOPLE. Equally important is the wide range of pamphlets that form "a veritable working class university." Not of the least importance to us has been the help of the WEEKLY PEOPLE staff, the New York Labor News and Comrade Petersen, whose understanding and thoughtfulness have been appreciated by us all. On the plain practical level, the granting of a credit for literature and the various donations from individual American comrades has been of incalculable value to us.

At this point we would like to record how much we appreciated the visit of Comrades Justine and Lawrence Blackwell of Tucson, Arizona. Their stay in Sydney was short but memorable. We held a picnic in honour of these comrades at a pleasant spot in the Blue Mountains about 30 miles from where we live. An address of welcome was delivered by myself and Comrade Lawrence replied. A collection was taken and our American comrades donated \$58.50. This sum was allocated for *The People* and we all appreciated the gesture and everything it signified.

It is very good to know that the work done since the June, 1967, report makes much more pleasing reading. Most of the organisational difficulties experienced during the time covered by the 1967 Report have been resolved, or at least are now manageable. The "feel of things" within the Party is more positive and indicative of members being determined to do their best to build up the Party.

Workers in this country are showing next to no class consciousness but at the same time we believe that there has been considerable improvement within the restricted areas where we make contact with them. At the Domain the small core of regulars has developed, attendance at study classes, whilst still very small, also contains regulars. The size of Domain audiences has increased and quality-wise the position is much the same, ranging from the highly appreciative to the hooligan-dominated.

When we look about us we're only too conscious of the confusion that reigns supreme but know that only by getting the workers to study the Party programme will the confusion be removed and really meaningful effort directed to solving the problems facing mankind. Capitalism gets uglier every day and Socialism more urgently needed.

With best wishes to all the American comrades and the highest

hopes for a successful 1968 National Convention,

Yours fraternally,

[signed] FRANK PRINCE.

The SLP of America stands ever ready to extend a helping hand to our Australian comrades, commensurate with our capacity to do so.

British SLP

No report or summary of SLP activities in Great Britain has been received.

There is no question here of the dedication of the British comrades to the SLP principles and program. Their official organ, *The Socialist*, is published regularly and is received here with satisfaction. Its contents are generally standard SLP and of high quality. Literature orders for Labor News publications have increased, manifesting increased activities, etc.

PARTY PRESS AND LITERATURE

Weekly People

WEEKLY PEOPLE sales for 1967, with comparative figures for the three preceding years (cents omitted), were as follows:

1967:	\$21,510
1966:	19,834
1965:	19,138
1964:	19,395

The average weekly printings, including special issues, were:

1967:	11,192
1966:	12,188
1965:	12,435
1964:	12,623

The average weekly paid circulation of the WEEKLY PEOPLE, as reported to the Post Office, Oct. 1, 1967, was 11,107. The special May Day and Labor Day printings were 12,119 and 13,763, respectively.

The WEEKLY PEOPLE circulates in all states and in Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico and Canada. California leads in this respect, Michigan second, New York third, Pennsylvania fourth, Minnesota fifth, Ohio sixth, Illinois seventh, Washington eighth, New Jersey ninth, Wisconsin tenth.

Our official organ is placed in 541 libraries in 47 states, in Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. Mississippi is the sole exception, where there are no subscribers and no WEEKLY PEOPLES in any libra-

ries. This is not surprising considering that Mississippi, and most of the other "deep South" states are steeped in medieval ignorance and illiteracy.

We have subscribers in 22 foreign countries, namely, Australia, Austria, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Germany, India, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Macao, Mexico, The Netherlands, Norway, Okinawa, Phillipines, Rumania, Sweden, Switzerland.

For the record it is noted that the increase in the WEEKLY PEOPLE annual subscription rate to \$3, and single copy price to 10 cents, went into effect on Oct. 1, 1966. This was the first price increase in 46 years.

Circulation of the WEEKLY PEOPLE has not kept pace with the desperate needs of the times. Considering the intensification of the crisis of capitalism, its rapidly increasing deterioration accompanied by the widespread and mounting corruption and brutal crimes, we should have witnessed a greatly increased circulation. Unfortunately we have not. This situation should receive our most searching attention, and it is suggested that the Convention Committee on Party Press and Literature discuss the problem critically, analyzing it and probing the probable cause—whether it lies within ourselves and possible shortcomings, or whether perhaps it may be the cumulative effect of the outside forces that threaten to overwhelm all of us. Can these be overcome or offset through the resources available to us? It is, of course, vital that we ascertain the real cause if possible, and come up with a solution. We owe it to ourselves, to the working class and our great cause that nothing be left undone to find a solution.

Self-service Newsstands

Self-service newsstands are operated by 24 of our Subdivisions, Section Los Angeles having the greatest number (150), Section San Francisco the second highest (66 stands), both Sections' operations in 1967 resulting in profits.

Our WEEKLY PEOPLE self-service newsstand operations throughout the country reached their peak in 1963 when a total of 507 stands were in use. Since then, for a variety of reasons, there has been a steady decline in the number of stands: 474 in 1964, 468 in 1965, 442 in 1966 and 428 in 1967—a drop of 16% in the four-year period. The number of commercial stands that carry the WEEKLY PEOPLE regularly increased about 15% during this period—from 39 to 45.

The greatest drop in the number of self-service stands since 1963 took place in Detroit, from 79 to 29. The bulk of this loss is accounted for by the fact that in April, 1967, the Public Lighting Com-

mission removed all the WEEKLY PEOPLE stands in downtown Detroit, 29 of them, which had been fastened to their light and power poles for over eleven years, without a word of complaint by the Commission during this entire period. The self-service stands of the *Detroit News* and the *Detroit Free Press*, which are also attached to the Commission's poles, were not molested. Efforts to get an explanation from the Commission for their discriminatory act were arrogantly rebuffed.

The ACLU was approached on the matter and first indications were that they might be willing to assist Section Wayne County in getting the stands back in operation. But they soon lost all interest. On July 11, the Commission notified the two capitalist papers that they, too, would have to remove their stands from the poles. They were given ninety days to comply with the order. No such "courtesy" had been extended to the WEEKLY PEOPLE. The publishers of the two Detroit papers made no move to comply. In fact, the ACLU informed Comrade Sim that they planned to fight the Commission's order, but they were not interested in cooperating with the SLP in this respect. Before matters could come to a head, the two Detroit papers were shut down by a strike. This is where matters now stand.

There has also been quite a drop in the number of stands operated by Section Los Angeles, from 186 (in 1963) to 150. However the 150 stands in operation at the end of 1967 represents an increase of ten over the number in operation at the end of 1966. It is hoped that this indicates that the trend has been reversed.

In Oakland, Calif., the city authorities adopted a set of regulations requiring all newspapers to use a uniform type of coin-operated box. The city installed special poles on which these boxes were to be mounted. Section Oakland purchased 25 such boxes at a total cost of \$410, which sum was raised "by special subscription of the members."

In those cities where self-service stands have been in operation for a considerable length of time, vandalism during 1967 was rare. In considerable measure this is undoubtedly due to improved methods in servicing the stands, and also because our Sections have learned from experience where to place their stands so that they are less likely to be vandalized. In 1967 the greatest amount of vandalism occurred in Denver where two stands were stolen and never recovered, and where the papers were frequently removed almost immediately after being placed on the stand.

In some cities we continue to encounter interferences from the local authorities. Mention has already been made respecting Detroit. In Rockford, Ill., Comrade George La Forest is still battling with the authorities in an effort to have them reverse their refusal to

permit WEEKLY PEOPLE stands on the streets, even though the local capitalist paper is sold from such stands. This battle has been going on for two years and the issue is still not resolved, despite publicity given to Comrade La Forest's tangle with the authorities.

On July 2, 1967, Comrade John Morris reported that four self-service stands had been removed by the Gary, Indiana, city officials and federal authorities, by order of the City Controller. A fifth stand was not molested. These stands had been in operation in Gary for about eight years. Comrade Morris promptly contacted the City Controller for an explanation, and was told that the stands had been removed because they were being operated without a permit as required under a local ordinance. The City Controller, however, was unable to identify the specific ordinance or produce it.

After considerable correspondence and a number of phone calls and visits to the City Attorney's office, the Assistant City Controller wrote Comrade Morris, citing an ordinance which stated in part:

"It shall be unlawful to encumber any of the streets or sidewalks of the city with any buildings, fences or other structures, vehicles, horses or any substance or material whatever so as to interfere with the free use of same . . ."

The ordinance made no reference to any permit requirement.

Acting on the suggestion of a lawyer acquaintance, Comrade Morris formally requested the city authorities to issue a permit for the WEEKLY PEOPLE stands. Weeks passed with no response. Comrade Morris then recommended that the stands be replaced at their original locations without any permit. Before doing so, a letter was written to the city authorities under date of Dec. 6, 1967, informing them that if we did not hear from them by Dec. 26, we were going to put the stands back on the street. The letter went unanswered. The stands were then placed back on the street, where all but one remain in operation. The one exception was set up near a federal government establishment. The head of the department demanded its removal on the grounds that the federal government owns the street in front of the building. The matter is being "debated."

We are pleased to be able to report that Section Minneapolis has successfully resolved the two problems that were threatening the continued existence of our self-service stands in their city. They have secured the necessary permanent permits (\$5 for the first stand and \$1 for each additional stand), and the required insurance at a cost of \$54 for three years.

Section Monroe County, N.Y., also solved the insurance problem in the city of Rochester by securing a policy meeting the city's requirement, at a cost of \$17 per year.

Under date of Oct. 25, 1967, we were informed by Attorney Tony Geram (who rendered his services without charge) that the District Court of Appeals had overruled the lower court and directed that the injunctions we sought against the cities of Anaheim and Garden Grove (California) be issued. The two cities had sixty days in which to request a rehearing in the District Court of Appeals or appeal to the California Supreme Court. They apparently decided not to appeal. Under date of Feb. 23, 1968, Comrade Leo Gillespie, who had been delegated to discuss the matter with Attorney Geram, reported that our attorney was of the opinion that the police would not interfere with our selling the WEEKLY PEOPLE from news racks on the streets of Anaheim and Garden Grove. Word has just been received (on April 30th) that stands have been set up in both cities.

The printing costs, etc., incurred in carrying the case to the Court of Appeals amounted to \$606.57. It was understood that if we won the case all or most of this cost would be assessed against the two cities. In mid-April, 1968, Mr. Geram informed Section Los Angeles that he had received a check for \$558.17. How much of this amount we will get in refund is not clear at this writing.

[Two days after the National Convention ended, May 9, we received a check in the full amount (\$558.17) from Mr. Geram and in the accompanying letter he wrote: "I am personally convinced that in many respects I will view this case as one of the most important civil liberties cases I've had some part in, and certainly the most important I've participated in successfully to date. And the SLP through yourself and the Longs and others are to be congratulated in being insistent on your constitutional rights and seeing the matter through despite the substantial expense involved."]

The enormous value of self-service WEEKLY PEOPLE stands cannot be questioned since without them our circulation would be reduced seriously. Yet we dare not depend entirely or disproportionately on these for conducting our educational activities. As the NEC, at its 1959 Session, warned us:

"The political state may at any time deprive us of the use of street stands, as has already happened in various localities, causing a sudden drop in WEEKLY PEOPLE circulation and a corresponding decline in the spirits of street-stand enthusiasts."

It is well to reflect seriously on this possible, though for the near future hopefully not quite probable, dismal prospect. It does add emphasis to the desirability of increasing substantially our sub-

scription list with new subscribers, and following up on renewals.

LABOR NEWS ACTIVITIES

Sales

Labor News sales for 1967, with comparative figures for the preceding three years, were as follows (cents omitted):

	Books and Pamphlets	Leaflets	Totals
1967:	\$5,399	\$3,289	\$ 8,688
1966:	6,217	5,269	11,486
1965:	6,458	5,084	11,542
1964:	5,940	1,604*	7,544*

*National campaign leaflets charged to the Campaign Fund in the amount of \$4,828.

As will be noted, there was a considerable drop in sales in 1967, as compared with 1966 and 1965. The drop is all the more disturbing in view of the fact that prices have been increased on a number of pamphlets during the past two years. Moreover, sales to individuals who order direct from the New York Labor News have increased in recent years. There seems little doubt that a primary cause of the drop in total sales is the drastic reduction in orders from Sections. This is due in part, no doubt, to the equally drastic, but understandable, reduction in the number of public lectures conducted by the Sections throughout the country. It was at public lectures that the Subdivisions sold the bulk of their literature. It is hoped that this Convention will give careful consideration to this problem and succeed in devising ways and means for increasing the sale of our literature.

Bookstores are now a more effective medium than ever through which to increase SLP literature sales. Regrettably, this has been ignored or overlooked, for only a very few of our Subdivisions make it an "order of business" to interest bookstores in displaying our literature. In Section New York, Comrade Milton Weinberger has made this field his specialty, and he has become an expert in it. In 1967 he serviced eight bookstores (setting up the displays in some of them himself), resulting in 1,454 pamphlets being sold for a total of \$573.

Another veteran member of Section New York, Comrade A. M. Scherzer, despite his advanced age is regularly out on the streets of New York, on college campuses, etc., selling and distributing Party literature. In 1967, he reported that his "concrete accomplishments" amounted to \$300 in literature sales, three yearly subscrip-

tions to the WEEKLY PEOPLE obtained, 3,900 copies of our official organ distributed as well as 1,400 leaflets handed out.

Mention should also be made of veteran Section New York member Alex Menendian who, regardless of weather or other obstacles, services sixteen or more commercial newspaper stands, calling for the bundles each week at the National Headquarters.

Our Indiana SEC in the last couple of years has made gift offers of Party books and pamphlets to 171 libraries (college, university, city and town public libraries), 33 of which accepted the offers.

Pamphlets Printed

In 1967 the following books and pamphlets were printed:

Title	Author	Quantity	Pages	Printing
Americanism and Socialism	Hass	3,000	48	11th
As to Politics	De Leon	2,000	128	7th
Class Struggles in France	Marx	1,500 paper 500 cloth	224	1st 2nd
Daniel De Leon: Emancipator	Petersen	2,000	64	2nd
15 Questions about Socialism	De Leon	2,000	128	14th
Montezuma's Dinner	Morgan	2,000	80	2nd
Karl Marx and Marxian Science	Petersen	1,750 paper 250 cloth	192	2nd
Religion of Capital	Lafargue	2,000	32	9th
Socialism: Questions and Answers		7,000	80	3rd
Socialism and the Intellectuals	Lafargue	2,000	48	1st

In 1968 to date the following were printed:

Daniel De Leon: Disciplinarian	Petersen	2,000	32	2nd
High Cost of Living	Petersen	2,000	64	8th
Proletarian Democracy vs.	Petersen	2,000	64	6th
Dictatorships and Despotism				
Science of Socialism		3,000	64	2nd
(Home Study Course)				
Socialism: From Utopia to Science	Engels	2,000	96	6th

An overall total to date of 37,000 books and pamphlets printed (15 titles), ranging from 32 pages to 224 pages, two in cloth binding. A new title was added: "Socialism and the Intellectuals," by Paul Lafargue, a brilliant and devastating exposure of the bourgeois "intellectual."

In addition, 962 "Charts: From Tribal Councils to Industrial Union Administration" (with a new chart design) were printed, also 5,000 new format Labor News catalogues, and a "Guide for Conduct of Discussion Groups." The new, greatly condensed catalogue has been enthusiastically received by Subdivisions because they can afford to give it a much wider circulation than the elaborate catalogue heretofore published at considerable expense. The "Guide" has also been well received by those conducting SLP Discussion Groups.

Leaflets Printed

The following leaflets were printed in 1967 (*asterisks indicating large four-page leaflets):

Titles	Quantity
Automation Crises! How Safe is YOUR Job?	20,000
Civil Rights: A Socialist Appraisal	65,000
A Great Society? Possible Only Under Socialism!	10,000
Greatest Robbery in History*	15,000
How to Build a Real Union	40,000
How to Build a Sane World	40,000
The Truth About Inflation	65,000
Out of Work! How Safe is YOUR JOB?	10,000
Peace IS Possible	50,000
Politicians Promise and Things Get Worse!	92,500
Promise of Socialism	15,000
Race Prejudice—Why?	45,000
Menace of Reactionary Right	65,000
"Rightism" is American Fascism	20,000
Socialism: Champion of Civilized Principles	30,000
Socialism: The Answer to POVERTY	55,000
Socialism vs. Soviet Despotism	10,000
Socialist Industrial Unionism*	40,000
Strikes and the "Public"	50,000
HIS Strike is YOUR Concern	65,000
Survival is the Issue	25,000
Angry, Frightened over VIETNAM? . . . Then Read This	65,000
Vietnam: Understanding vs. Emotion	
(What Value have Demonstrations?)	240,000
War-Why?	40,000
What Causes War?	55,000
What Socialism Means	55,000
Which Would You Choose? Capitalism, State Despotism or REAL Socialism?*	50,000
Who Speaks for Socialism?	20,000
You've Read the LIES about Socialism . . .	
Now Read the FACTS	70,000

A total of 1,422,500, 29 titles, and, as previously mentioned, this is a considerable falling off as compared with 1966.

PARTY FINANCES AND FUNDS

The books and accounts of National Headquarters have been audited by the firm of Certified Public Accountants, Simonoff, Peyser and Citrin, as it has been done without interruption since 1915. The Financial Statement and Balance Sheets of the Business Office and Party Plant, and the Financial Reports of the National Office, for the years 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967 are submitted herewith. These reports have been printed in a quantity sufficient to supply each member with a copy, the first three mentioned having already been supplied to the membership. The report for 1967 will be mailed

to the Subdivisions for distribution to the members as soon as possible after the Convention.

With regard to the auditing of our books and records for 1967, we at first experienced some difficulty. For the first time in 53 years our auditing firm informed us that they could not do the audit for us this year, and probably not hereafter. The reason given was *their* help problem. They claimed that they could not get the necessary office help to handle their presumably increasing business, and that ours was only one of a number of relatively small accounts they were compelled to drop. We were told this belatedly, after they had already committed themselves to do the audit. We asked them to reconsider, it being too late before the Convention to find another responsible auditing firm, aside from lack of time on our part to do so. Following telephone conversations which resulted in continued refusals to reconsider, the National Secretary wrote a strong letter to a member of the firm, recalling their association with us as auditors of the Party for more than half a century. They finally agreed to do the audit this year, and prepare our tax reports, etc., which they had also done for years. We shall probably have to find another auditing firm willing and able to handle our account at a cost not exceeding our ability to pay.

Contributions

The total contributed to all funds in 1967 was \$79,615, almost the same amount as in 1966 (\$79,792). All contributions were acknowledged in the WEEKLY PEOPLE, and they were received for the various funds in the following amounts:

Weekly People Guard	\$28,748
Press Security Fund	15,360
WP 75th Anniversary Fund	106
Thanksgiving Bazaar Fund	24,047
Christmas Box	6,185
National Leaflet Fund	32
New Headquarters-Moving Fund	5
National Publicity Fund	314
National Organizer Fund	1,507
National Radio-TV Fund	173
Civil Liberties Defense & Socialist Agitation Fund	393
De Leon Editorial Publication Fund	762
Esperanto Language Fund	11
National Campaign Fund	1,912

The proceeds of WEEKLY PEOPLE Thanksgiving Bazaar Fund affairs held in 1967 amounted to \$24,189 (compared with \$24,423 in 1966). The breakdown follows:

	1967 Affairs, as of March 31, 1968	1966 Affairs, as of Oct. 9, 1967
Eastern Interstate (N.Y.-Conn.-		

N.J.-Phila.-Wash., D.C.)	\$6,120	\$5,272
Bay Area, Calif.	2,963	2,664
Ohio State	2,771	2,615
Illinois State	2,000	2,110
Michigan State	1,854	2,315
Los Angeles, Calif.	1,082	1,831
Massachusetts State	1,036	915
Wisconsin State	1,010	951
Western New York	783	808
Western Pennsylvania	527	428
Twin Cities, Minn.	482	396
Indiana State	392	374
Washington State	375	244
Arizona (Maricopa Co. & Tucson)	370	765
St. Petersburg, Fla., SLP Group	271	228
Miami, Fla., SLP Group	154	200
St. Louis, Mo.	139	200
St. Louis County, Minn.	111	102
Denver, Colo.	66	
Portland, Ore.	40	84

Included in the above totals are contributions from ten WEEKLY PEOPLE Clubs, which amounted to \$7,589 in 1967 (\$7,234 in 1966). As ever, our thanks and gratitude go to the valiant ladies, comrades and sympathizers, who worked hard to raise this very substantial amount for the WEEKLY PEOPLE. These are the participating Clubs and amounts collected:

Weekly People Club of	1967 Total	1966 Total
Wayne County, Mich.	\$1,675	\$1,675
Los Angeles, Calif.	1,303	1,223
Twin Cities, Minn.	1,020	787
Oakland, Calif.	968	821
Cook County, Ill.	936	1,099
San Francisco, Calif.	645	575
Cleveland, O.	557	360
Palo Alto, Calif.	283	489
Steubenville, O.	90	75
St. Louis, Mo.	12	25
Bridgeport, Conn.	—	105

At the Federations' annual conventions in 1967 the following totals were collected for the WEEKLY PEOPLE: Bulgarian SLF \$2,497; South Slavonian SLF \$4,177; for a total of \$6,675.

*

As of Dec. 31, 1967, outstanding accounts receivable for WEEKLY PEOPLE and Labor News sales amounted to \$1,549.

The Party is in debt to no one except WEEKLY PEOPLE subscribers for unexpired subscription terms, \$8,679.

*

During 1967 the amount of \$2,247 accrued to the Estates Fund. Settlement is pending of a number of estates of departed members and sympathizers, who made bequests to the Party in their wills.

INTERFERENCES AND RELATED INCIDENTS

Though there continue to be occasions when our members are harassed or interfered with by the police and other local authorities while engaged in leaflet distribution and related activities, they are generally of such nature that they are resolved on the spot by the member or members involved, or are quickly settled by the state or local organization usually before anyone has been given a summons or placed under arrest.

There are, of course, exceptions. One such exception occurred last October 12 in Tempe, Arizona, when two of our members, Nick Mays and Max Banks, were given summonses while selling WEEKLY PEOPLES and Party literature on the streets in the vicinity of Tempe University. The specific charge was that they "did wilfully and unlawfully hand out or distribute non-commercial handbills in public place, and charge to the receiver thereof for same." This, the police contended, violated an existing ordinance.

The two comrades contacted an ACLU attorney who agreed to handle the case. At the initial hearing on Nov. 15, the attorney moved for dismissal of the charges, which motion the judge took under advisement. Early in December the Judge denied the motion and set the trial for Jan. 19, 1968. There were several postponements, the case finally coming to trial on March 20. The attorney did a good job of presenting the reasons why Mays and Banks should be acquitted of the unjustified charge, citing various Supreme Court decisions upholding the constitutional right to sell and distribute political literature. He apparently only half-convinced the court who then rendered the following stupid verdicts: He acquitted Comrade Mays of the charge of selling the WEEKLY PEOPLE, but found Comrade Banks guilty for offering pamphlets for sale and fined him \$25. The attorney is appealing Comrade Banks' conviction.

An incident with quite a different result occurred in New Jersey last Oct. 17. Comrades J. Levin and B. Doganiero were told by a campus guard that they could not distribute leaflets on the Rutgers University campus. A brief letter questioning the right of the University to abridge freedom of the press on its campus brought the following surprising response from the Office of the Secretary of the University:

"Dear Mr. Clement [New Jersey SLP State Secretary]:

"When your letter of Nov. 9 arrived, I asked for a report from our Campus Security Office on your statement that a campus patrolman instructed members of the Socialist Labor Party not to dis-

tribute literature in the vicinity of the University Commons.

"The report clearly reveals that the patrolman did indeed act improperly and that, as you say, your representatives 'were denied their rights.'

"On behalf of the University, I convey to you and the Socialist Labor Party representatives involved our very deep regret and our hope that the Party's representatives were not as embarrassed as we are. I trust that they will wish to return to the campus at any time at their convenience."

In St. Paul, Minn., a most unpleasant and disturbing incident occurred on Aug. 27, 1967. A sympathizer (who does not wish to be mentioned publicly) was placing leaflets on cars near the State Fair grounds when he noticed four men approaching him from the rear taking the leaflets off the cars and throwing them on the ground. As Comrade Darvin Danelius reported the incident, one of the four accosted our sympathizers and remarked that the leaflets were "communist." He then struck our sympathizer. When he attempted to defend himself, the brute pulled out a revolver and ordered him to drop the leaflets on the ground and set them on fire, saying: "If you don't, I'll kill you." The incident was reported to the police, whose only reaction was that if our sympathizer would point out the men, they would arrest them.

Comrade Danelius concluded his report stating: "This incident should once again remind us not to work alone. The dangers of being alone in this hour of capitalist decadence are too great."

Though not directly related to interferences with the exercise of our rights, the following unfortunate incident should also be reported here. On March 22, 1968, we received a telegram from Comrade John Lambasse informing us that the Organizer of Section Los Angeles, Comrade E. Henry Elliott, was in the hospital in critical condition. Subsequently, Comrade Vera Lambase wrote explaining that Elliott had apparently been found lying in the street somewhere, badly beaten. Later we learned that four young hoodlums had beaten Comrade Elliott with a bottle on his face. After about three weeks he improved sufficiently to leave the hospital. His eyesight, however, is still badly impaired, one eye seriously so. He will apparently require surgery at some future date.

Since the foregoing was written, a letter (dated April 16) was received from Comrade Vera Lambase reporting on further developments in Comrade Elliott's fight fully to recover his health. The following excerpts are quoted from that letter:

"Your letter of April 5th just received as we have just re-

turned from a vacation following the State Convention.

"Immediately upon our return I called Comrade Elliott. He was sleeping at the time so we spoke with his wife. She reported that he was making slow progress. She was quite upset as Elliott was planning on attending the Section meeting the following day. Later on we called again and spoke to Comrade Elliott himself. We tried to discourage him but he was insistent. The following day, sure enough he was there. I was very surprised to see him in much better mental and physical condition In fact, he took part in the meeting with a very clear head He could clearly remember all past correspondence and action. We were all most encouraged.

"When we asked him why he did not stay home he replied, 'Oh no, I have already missed one Section meeting which I am very sorry for.' You just want to cry at such Party devotion. We could all here learn a lesson from him. He does not know what apathy means, only devotion and that beautiful rare quality, enthusiasm

"In the next few days he will undergo delicate surgery on his damaged eye. What the results will be of course we don't know. This is the way it stands now. Will keep you informed when there is a change."

The devotion and concern for the Party's welfare of this comrade is a challenge to every Party member. If such dedication does not stir into action those who take their SLP responsibilities too lightly, and who permit personal trivia to interfere with Party duty, it is to be doubted that anything ever will.

*

Under this general head may be included incidents of slander and misrepresentations of the Party's policies and position on important questions. One of the latest slanders of the Party (and in this case specifically Daniel De Leon) is found in a text book widely used, "History of a Free People," published by the supposedly respectable publishing firm of Macmillan & Co. of New York and London.

Under the subhead, "The Socialist Movement," an account is briefly given of the division in the movement in this country, presenting it as follows: "One group believed that socialism could be introduced into capitalistic society gradually through peaceful, democratic means. The other thought the only way to overthrow capitalism was by violence."

The story continues, casting Debs as leader of the "moderate" group and (a little later in the text) De Leon as the advocate of physical force and violence, including the part he played in the original IWW which, in 1908, was captured by the anarcho-syndical-

ists against the strong opposition of De Leon and the SLP.

Continuing, we read in this outrageous falsification of well documented history:

"The I.W.W. opposed to the Debs following was an extremist group led by Daniel De Leon. De Leon denounced reformers as sentimentalists, moderate Socialists as 'traitors to the Working Class,' and Samuel Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor . . . as 'a greasy tool of Wall Street.' Seeing an inevitable conflict between workers and capitalists, De Leon proposed to enlist all workers under one big union. Professional revolutionaries would train laborers in class warfare carried on through strikes, violence, and sabotage (destruction of goods and machinery)."

This shameless, yet stupid, libelling of De Leon and distortion of history has been challenged by the SLP, mainly through the persistent efforts of Comrade Ralph Muncy of Michigan. He wrote letter after letter demanding correction of this scandalous misrepresentation of historic facts, the libelling of a man of De Leon's stature and record of uncompromising denunciation of violence in attaining the Socialist goal. Comrade Muncy's letters to the Michigan Board of Education, which had approved the textbook for use in Michigan educational institutions, began in June, 1966, and his demand for correction of the vicious, lying passage in the book was mentioned in broadcasts over Ann Arbor and Detroit radio and TV stations. The Detroit News (Aug. 22, 1967) published a brief editorial under the caption "When Politics Dictates History . . . , " not a bad title for a capitalist newspaper. The editorial blows hot and cold on the falsifications in the textbook, at first seemingly critical of the misuse of textbooks for capitalist propaganda purposes, but then cautiously retreating. The editorial opens with this paragraph:

"The first complaint has been filed under Michigan's new law of ethnic and racial fairness in textbooks. No Negro has been offended, nor have the Irish been aggrieved. But the Socialist Labor Party is up in arms over the 'unreliable' treatment socialism is receiving. We could have told you so."

Continuing, the editorial comments:

"The law in question does not now cover the type of complaint the Socialist Labor Party is bringing. But the tendency to use textbook review boards as censoring agents for special interest groups is hardly unexpected."

Then comes the anti-climax:

"So we hope the State Board of Education will resist the pressure to turn textbook selection into a propaganda circus for every conceivable cause."

The final note in the editorial is one of defending the right of "government agencies" to determine what is "honest, decent and fair." The question is not merely one of being "fair," but one of indisputable facts, historic accuracy, a point which the capitalist paper did not mention.

The authors of the textbook in question are (or were—one having died) Henry W. Bragdon, Instructor in History, Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire (a school for "upper class students") and Samuel P. McCutchen (deceased), Chairman, Social Studies Dept., School of Education, New York University. An aggressive Wisconsin sympathizer, Robert E. Nordlander, came across the libels in the "History of a Free People," immediately took up arms in defense of De Leon and the SLP, by writing a forthright, uncompromising letter (Nov. 2, 1967) to the authors of the work, without mincing words.

"As one who is a disciple of Clio," he wrote, "and also as one who is a supporter of the principles and program of the Socialist Labor Party of America, I must protest your untruthful portrayal of Daniel De Leon on page 498 . . . The statement was either made with the intent to deliberately deceive the reader, or it was made in ignorance. In either case it was inexcusable . . ."

Nordlander then proceeded to expose the authors as unconscionable liars or ignoramuses in the field of education in which they were supposed to be expert. Concluding, Nordlander wrote: "Your thoughts and comments would be appreciated, i.e., if you can spare the time in the interest of truth and honesty."

With surprising honesty Prof. Bragdon acknowledged his guilt, confessing carelessness, etc. In part he replied to Mr. Nordlander (Nov. 7, 1967), thanking him for "writing about my mistaken notion that Daniel De Leon advocated violence," adding: "You will be glad to know that in the last (6th) edition of HISTORY OF A FREE PEOPLE I have rectified the error to which you refer." He tried to justify his "error," acknowledging that textbook writers "can be experts on very little of what they write about and must inevitably use secondary sources which may be fallible." "Fallible," indeed—mostly deliberate propaganda falsehoods!

Prof. Bragdon concluded his reply to Mr. Nordlander: "I am always grateful when people write to tell me of errors in my books, even though I often—as in this case—cringe."

Here is a picture of the means and manner by which the intellect of youth is being corrupted in America's so-called educational institutions. Encouraging the growth of intellectual integrity in the youth is of secondary importance, if indeed considered important

at all. The Socialist Labor Party has been fully aware of this intellectual corruption (witness De Leon's "Marxian Science and the Colleges"), and hardly needed this latest example as proof, though it is well to have it acknowledged and recorded as a concrete example.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The following constitutional amendments are proposed by the National Office for the consideration of the Convention. Most of them are self-explanatory, intended to clarify the particular provision; such clarification is felt to be necessary as a result of our experiences during the past four years.

Several changes proposed are intended to clarify the voting procedure in all matters, including elections and nominations.

1. Art. II, Sec. 3 (pages 4-5).

Strike out the designation "Executive" from the name "State Executive Committee." This deletion to be made wherever it appears in the Constitution.

Comment:

The proposal to delete the word "Executive" from the name "State Executive Committee" is merely a belated recognition of the fact that our State Committees are not, and have not been for a long time, Executive Committees, being limited strictly to directing and coordinating activities of the Sections within the state. Several additional minor changes are proposed in keeping with this fact. If these are approved, the Model State By-Laws will be corrected accordingly by the National Office.

2. Art. II, Sec. 5 (page 5).

It is proposed to amend this section to read as follows (italicized passages are new):

"If a Section *temporarily* falls below the required membership minimum, it may, at the discretion of the National Executive Committee, continue to function as a Section pending its being brought up to the minimum membership requirements. *Provided, however, that such Section's activities shall be limited to routine Party business and agitational activities.*"

3. Art. II, Sec. 7 (b) (page 5).

Substitute the word "routine" for the word "regular."

4. Art. II, Sec. 17 (page 8, 11th line from top).

Strike out the words "be required to," the sentence, then, to

read: "The Committee shall report to the next regular business meeting of the Section"

5. Art. II, Sec. 24 (page 10, eighth line), and Sec. 25 (eighth line).

Substitute for the words "stand suspended," the words "be deprived of all membership rights."

Comment:

This substitution is proposed to differentiate between the status of members in arrears with their dues and those suspended through disciplinary action.

6. Art. II, Sec. 29 (a) (page 12).

Strike out the word "first" in the fourth line.

7. Art. II, Sec. 29 (e) (page 12).

Amend the last sentence of this provision to read as follows:

"The accused party shall be notified in due time by the Committee to appear at the Section meeting at which its report shall be rendered."

8. Art. II, Sec. 42 (page 16).

Strike out (seventh line): "of the State Executive Committee or, in the absence of such."

Comment:

See explanation under proposed amendment no. 1.

9. Art. IV (page 25), new Section 14:

"Each member nominated for membership on the State Committee or for State Secretary must be voted on separately at a regular or special meeting of the Section and must receive a majority (that is, more than half) of the votes cast before he or she can be considered the nominee of the Section."

10. Art. V, Sec. 2 (page 26), New Paragraph (b):

"A member nominated for membership on the National Executive Committee must receive a majority (that is, more than half) of the votes cast before he or she can be considered the nominee of the Section."

11. Art. V, Sec. 9 (page 27).

It is proposed to amend this section to read as follows (italicized passages are new):

"Any member of the National Executive Committee shall be removable either (a) upon the application of three Sections within the Region from which he was elected; or (b) upon the application of

five Sections, within at least two NEC Regions. The initiating Section must submit its removal motion, *which must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Section's total membership*, to the National Office which shall issue a call for the necessary seconds *within 45 days after receiving it*. All seconds must be made within six weeks from the date the call is issued by the National Office. *It shall require a majority vote of its total membership for a Section to second such removal motion*. If sufficient seconds are received, the question shall be submitted *within 30 days* to the entire membership for a referendum vote, *the vote to close within six weeks from the date the matter was submitted for same.*"

12. Art. V, Sec. 13 (h) (pages 28-29).

It is proposed to strike out the section and substitute the following:

"To submit propositions to a general vote, other than those specifically provided for elsewhere in this Constitution: A proposition sent by a Section to the National Office for submission to a general vote must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Section. The National Office shall issue a call for seconds within 45 days after receiving the proposition. In issuing the call for seconds the NEC may express its views on the merits of the proposition and on the premises advanced by the initiating Section. If the proposition is endorsed within six weeks by at least five other Sections located in at least three different NEC Regions, it shall be submitted to a general vote within 30 days after the final date for submitting seconds. It shall require a majority vote of its total membership for a Section to second such proposition. The vote shall close within 60 days from the time the proposition is submitted to the general vote. Provided, however, that any such proposition received by the National Office during the six months immediately preceding a National Convention shall be referred to the National Convention, unless in the judgment of the NEC the Party's interests would best be served by submitting it to a general vote."

Comment:

The procedure outlined under this new Sec. 13 (h) is proposed because there is no detailed provision in the present Party Constitution for submitting matters to a general vote. Several other changes are directly related to the procedure here being proposed.

13. Art. V, New Sec. 20 to be added (page 30):

"No member of the NEC Sub-Committee shall at the same time be permitted to hold any other national office. Nor shall a member of the Sub-Committee function as a permanent national organizer,

but he may be toured for specific purposes, and for definite periods."

14. Art. VI, Sec. 5 (pages 30-31):

Strike out the entire section and substitute the following:

"The National Secretary may be removed from office through the procedure provided in Art. V, Sec. 13 (h)."

15. Art. VI, Sec. 6 (page 31):

Add to the last sentence, following "and submit the same to a general vote of the whole Party," *"the vote to close within six weeks from the date of submission for such general vote."*

16. Art. VII, Sec. 1 (page 31).

Amend by inserting the passage italicized:

"The National Convention of the Party shall be held every fourth or Presidential election year; but, if ten Sections in three different Regions so demand, a general vote shall be taken as to holding a special convention. *Except for the number of seconds required, the procedure for initiating such proposal, calling for seconds and submitting it to a general vote shall be the same as provided in [amended] Art. V, Sec. 13 (h).* The city and date of the convention shall be determined by the National Executive Committee."

17. Art. VII, Sec. 3 (page 32):

Add the following as the concluding sentence of this Section:

"Each member placed in nomination for delegate or alternate must receive a majority (that is, more than half) of the votes cast before he or she can be considered the nominee of the Section."

18. Art. VIII, Sec. 1 (page 33):

Amend this Section to read as follows (italicized passages are new):

Members residing in states where there are no Sections *shall be* attached to the Organization as national members-at-large, paying their dues direct to the National Office, and *shall be* subject to the jurisdiction of the NEC. *The NEC shall have the power to make such exceptions to this provision as in its judgment would be in the interest of the Party.*

19. Art. XI, Sec. 9 (page 36):

Delete the word "political" in the third line.

20. Art. XII, Sec. 4 (page 37):

Strike out the last sentence which reads:

"But they shall not participate in decisions pertaining to internal Party matters, as to do so would mean the exercise of dual membership functions."

Comment:

Since State Committees and State Conventions are not permitted to deal with internal Party matters, this provision is superfluous.

21. Art. XIII, Sec. 1 (b) (pages 38-39):

It is proposed to strike out the entire Section and substitute the following:

"This Constitution may also be amended through the procedure provided in Art. V, Sec. 13 (h)."

22. Art. XIII, Sec. 2 (page 39).

Strike out the words "a plurality vote is sufficient to decide" and substitute the following:

"a majority (that is, more than half) of the votes cast shall be required to decide."

23. Art. XIII, Sec. 12 (page 42).

Add the following as the concluding sentence in this Section:

"Only members in good standing shall be permitted to attend executive sessions."

This concludes proposed amendments to the Party Constitution.

THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN, 1968

The SLP national campaign in this fate-freighted year of 1968 will, without the slightest doubt, present the Party with more grave problems than in any previous one within remembrance. The bloody, criminal war in the Far East, for one thing, will complicate our efforts as never in the past, barring possibly only the 1916 campaign. The criminal ruling class, in sheer desperation, will not hesitate to resort to desperate means if convinced that their system is in deadly peril, as many of the topmost plutocrats and politicians apparently think is the case.

Foremost among our problems is the task of marshalling the needed manpower to gather the signatures required to place our ticket on the ballot in as many states as possible. The present outlook is that in this respect we may not succeed to the same extent as in 1964.

Unless the Convention decides otherwise, the same general procedure of touring our candidates in 1960 and 1964 will be followed. It is hoped that the Convention will suggest new methods and means to make our campaign as effective and fruitful as our resources make possible.

To repeat, our problems will be manifold, and to solve the most essential ones there must be perfect unity in our ranks, and personal

feelings and personal considerations must yield to the great needs of the Party in this perilous hour and not allow any doubts to lessen our efforts. As the ancient Roman philosopher admonished:

"Flinch not, neither give up nor despair, if
the achieving of every act in accordance with right
principles is not always continuous with thee."

Let, then, the unanimous cry be: We shall not flinch, nor give up in despair!

IN MEMORIAM

Our losses through death in 1967 have been heavy, and some of our most dedicated members and sympathizers have been taken from us. Though we reflect with deep sorrow on the loss of these working class champions, we may still echo the words of the poet who wrote:

"Mourn not the dead . . .
But rather mourn the apathetic throng—
The cowed and the meek—
Who see the world's great anguish and its wrong
And dare not speak."

The saddening scroll of our honored dead follows (since the last report):

George L. McGlynn, Section Bridgeport, Conn., June 4, 1967;
John Szilagyi, Section Wayne Co., Mich., June, 1967;
Philip J. Kessler, Section Allegheny Co., Pa., June 23, 1967;
Lindsay A. Chatman, Section Akron, O., Sept. 14, 1967;
Charles V. Smith, national member-at-large, Oct. 1, 1967;
Herman Zlotnik, Section Los Angeles, Calif., Nov., 1967;
Anton Butch, Section Oakland, Calif., Dec. 2, 1967;
J. O. Shaffer, Section Oakland, Calif., Dec. 15, 1967;
W. Russell Camplin, Section Camden Co., N.J., Dec. 23, 1967;
Ellen V. Johnson, Section Bridgeport, Conn., Jan. 1, 1968;
James N. Case, national member-at-large, Jan. 14, 1968;
Signe Dermott, Section Los Angeles, Calif., Jan. 27, 1968;
Joseph Rosen, Section Los Angeles, Calif., Feb. 11, 1968;

*

Luba Gramaticoff, Bulgarian SLF Branch Detroit, May 26, 1967;
Peter Stayanoff, National Secretary Bulgarian SLF, Nov. 22, 1967;
Nick Tsoneff, Bulgarian SLF Branch Los Angeles, Nov. 13, 1967;
Kosta Marinoff, Bulgarian SLF Branch Akron, O., Feb. 24, 1968;

*

Jack Klaich, South Slavonian SLF Branch Cleveland, June, 1967;

Anna Sekulich, South Slavonian SLF Br. Youngstown, Aug., 1967;
Louis Sibul, member-at-large South Slavonian SLF, Oct. 20, 1967;

*

Harry Dermer, Providence, R.I., March, 1967;
Karl E. Danelius, Minneapolis, Minn., April, 1967;
Bert Radjenovich, Los Angeles, Calif., April 10, 1967;
Louis Lavella, Greensburg, Pa., April 23, 1967;
James McGeorge, Montrose, Pa., April 26, 1967;
Ed Whitlock, Pontiac, Mich., May 2, 1967;
Joseph Bauman, Youngstown, O., May 3, 1967;
Fred J. Hall, Miami, Fla., June 7, 1967;
Agnes Miklos, Massillon, O., May 12, 1967;
Alex Gomory, Akron, O., July 19, 1967;
August Blaud, Chicago, Ill., Sept. 17, 1967;
Margaret Churulich, Detroit, Mich., Sept. 9, 1967;
Henry Petersen, Swedesboro, N.J., Nov. 17, 1967;
Mrs. Rose Brasich, Miami, Fla., Dec. 19, 1967;
Richard Chesnutt, Spokane, Wash., Feb. 6, 1968;
Severin L. Eldrup, Daly City, Calif., Feb. 27, 1968;
Leo Kronewitter, Mishawaka, Ind., March 21, 1968;
Ben Fruitman, St. Catherines, Canada, August, 1967.

CONCLUSION

Sixty years ago, in 1908, the Socialist Labor Party waged a memorable national campaign under conditions and circumstances that as yet vaguely, but unmistakably, foreshadowed the events of the following years which culminated in the global catastrophe, World War I. One of the outstanding features of the Party's 1908 convention was its nomination of a union official (of the original IWW) who had been indicted for murder. As recorded in Party history, Morrie R. Preston, in exercising the right to picket, was attacked by the proprietor of a restaurant in Nevada, whose employees were on strike. The proprietor leveled a pistol at Preston, who, in self-defense, shot and killed the man who threatened his life.

This incident created an international sensation, and his nomination brought criticism of, as well as praise for, the Party. It set the tone for that campaign. As Party history records the incident: "For the first time in the history of political parties, there was nominated for President of the United States a man who was accused of murder." Preston was given a 25-year jail sentence (reduced years later), and that ended the legal aspect of the case.

However, the issue in the case, aside from the fate of Preston, was the right of workers to picket in a strike. Summed up, De Leon's reasoning was: No picket, no unions; no unions, no Socialist Republic. The Preston case became recognized as an historic event, though not dramatized as were the Tom Mooney and Sacco-Vanzetti cases.

Preston having been sent to jail, the late August Gillhaus, a veteran SLP fighter, was substituted. In the magazine, *The Independent*, dated Oct. 15, 1908, the Socialist Labor Party's appeal to the electorate was published, with similar appeals by other parties. It was written by De Leon in behalf of Gillhaus's candidacy, though appearing as Gillhaus's own. In substance, it reads as if it were prepared for this year's campaign. It opened with these words: "The earth has ever teemed with an abundance of wealth for man's comfort." Pointing out that in an age of scarcity it was fated that one class of men should be doomed to slavery so that the privileged few might be afforded the leisure to ensure continued progress, the statement concluded:

"When material development has ripened to the point that it belies existing social and political institutions, and these belie it, then a social revolution is ripe. It is then more than ripe: it is inevitable

with the alternative of a social catastrophe."

Sixty years ago, De Leon's prescience envisioned what we witness today: A social system, capitalism, in a progressively rapid process of dissolution and decay, infested with the corruption, poisons and evils of every kind characteristic of organisms in a state of final dissolution.

In the 1912 campaign, De Leon, speaking in behalf of the then SLP candidate for the Presidency, Arthur S. Reimer, wrote:

"... the cancer of dissolution of the social bonds that make society possible is on the rampage at the nation's vitals... From one end of the line to the other, the apparition is that of gaunt, rawboned anarchy—the bankruptcy of the moral sense; the dissolution of all social bonds. In sight of the dread apparition, society, instinctively alarmed for its safety, ever flies to the other extreme—absolutism. The move ever proceeds from the ruling class."

This could well have been written for today. In effect, its remarkable forecast marks De Leon as a social scientist of the highest order.

The 1912 SLP convention was a notable one, foreshadowing important developments that were to take place two years later. One of the important features of the convention was the report submitted by De Leon, which we now recognize as an important document in SLP history. Commenting on matters that are not axiomatic and on those that are, he observed that in his experience he had found that as to things axiomatic "there is no such thing as 'shades of opinion.' Socialism, that is, Marxism, hence the Party, is either right or it is wrong upon them. Articles that, directly or indirectly, are anti-Marxist may have their place in a magazine. There are people who still delight in tinkering with what, upon the field of sociology, is equivalent to the astronomic principle that the earth is round. They might be indulged in their passion or their idleness, or their mental indolence, or their vanity. But the DAILY PEOPLE is not a magazine. It is a weapon for battle; for a specific battle; for the battle of the SLP. SUCH AN ORGAN CANNOT STEER A COURSE THAT IS TOO STRICT."

Relating some of his troubles with writers of articles he described, and continuing on another matter, De Leon stated:

"The third matter that I wish to report upon concerns the size of the paper. There is a general inclination, it comes generally from 'the field,' to enlarge the paper... It is my observation that the DAILY and WEEKLY PEOPLE are plenty large enough as they are. The public that we address, and that we endeavor to attract, is not a 'headline-reading' public. It is a READING public. In most in-

stances these readers enjoy only limited leisure. Whether they be readers of the DAILY or of the WEEKLY, they have done fairly well if they have read the issue that they have in their hands before the next issue comes around. I have included this topic in the report because from the extensive correspondence that comes to me I have formed an opinion as to what the reading capacity of our public is. I am of the opinion that, unable to read all that is in each issue, the reader may not read even what he otherwise could. Besides, the articles would blanket each other, a condition of things that would work most harmfully upon the articles that should by all means be read."

While De Leon here is concerned with the suggested enlargement of the size of the paper, the same principle applies to articles in the standard-size paper that wander on to fields that are not relevant to the basic issues which a Marxist paper should analyze and discuss. Such straying from the basic to the irrelevant (however otherwise interesting) might well have the same effect as the results of a quantitative enlargement of the paper.

We have heard a great deal from certain critics of the Party about "broadening out," of the need for less "rigidity" in applying Party principles and policies, of greater "flexibility," of more tolerance, of the need to do some "rethinking," etc., etc. Similar contentions were made by the conspirators who plotted against the Party 50 years ago under the slogan of "Building up the Movement," particularly during the struggle within the Party over the proposed unity with the SP [the so-called Socialist party], a proposal heatedly argued at the 1916 National Convention of the Party. In fact, this proposal dominated the proceedings of the convention. The unity proposal, as was shown by subsequent events, was the mask concealing the real purpose of the conspirators, which was to scuttle the SLP and surrender the expected wreck to the SP. Some of the innocent ones argued that De Leon had been in favor of unity, citing the call by the SLP in 1908 for a conference with the SP to discuss the possibility of unity. In Socialist and working-class circles there is magic in the word "unity," the aspiration for which springs from the wholesome instinct of proletarian solidarity. It can be stated here that De Leon, knowing the utterly unprincipled nature of the SP leadership, since 1905 never believed in the possibility of unity with a party corruption-ridden and with a membership which, by and large, was moved solely by sentiment and without the slightest conception of what Socialism, that is, Marxism, really was.

In fact, although the 1904 Amsterdam Socialist Congress had called upon all countries having more than one party claiming the name

Socialist to do everything possible to bring about "Socialist Unity," no effort was made by De Leon or the Party to implement that resolution. However, when the Socialist International Congress, meeting at Stuttgart in 1907, adopted a Resolution on Unionism, which, for the first time, placed the International Congress on record as recognizing the economic organization as a necessary revolutionary weapon, the NEC felt the time was ripe to clear the air by proposing implementation of the 1904 unity call. De Leon and the Party knew full well that the SP would not accept the revolutionary economic organization proviso, but the SLP would have demonstrated that the SP, and the SP alone, was responsible for the existence in America of two parties claiming the name Socialist. And this is precisely what happened. The SP officialdom rejected the proposal out of hand, without submitting it to the membership referendum (which the SP was duty bound to do since its action was a rejection of the instructions of the International Congress), thereby freeing the SLP from any further obligations placed upon it by the Amsterdam Congress.

Freed of such obligations the Party and De Leon heaved a sigh of relief, and De Leon wrote a blistering editorial entitled "Clear the Decks" (*Daily People*, March 3, 1908), in which the SP was denounced as a corrupt bourgeois outfit, and calling upon the members of the Party to concentrate on SLP activities, and forget about any so-called "unity" with a party imbued with capitalist principles and policies, and in the firm control of an unscrupulous gang of exploiters of working-class sentiment for their own enrichment and hunger for highly remunerative office of the political State.

Had De Leon lived beyond 1914, it is certain that there would have been no further talk of unity with the SP. After his death the "unity mongers," as they were called, crawled out from under the rocks and succeeded in foisting on the 1916 SLP convention a unity proposal which was subsequently endorsed in the referendum, but with grave misgivings on the part of many of those who voted in favor of it.

The saving grace of the unity statement adopted by the 1916 convention was the inclusion as an indispensable condition—the insistence of our Party on a recognition of the industrial union principle which the SP officialdom would never have swallowed. The subsequent unity conference held early in 1917 proved that by the conference winding up absolutely deadlocked. There has never been any talk of unity since then and, in the nature of things, there never can be, for, as Artemus Ward would have said, the SP is now "deader nor Caesar," while the SLP continues undeterred in its work of Socialist agitation and education among the workingmen and women of Amer-

ica, confident of the ultimate vindication of its principles and program for a genuine Socialist America!

There is one incident in this connection that warrants recording here. During the latter part of 1913 and early 1914, Boris Reinstein (one of the chief "unity mongers") had been agitating for what in effect was a proposal to transform the SLP from a distinct political party into a mere educational or publishing association—to continue publishing our official organ and literature, but to abstain from nominating candidates and conducting political campaigns, leaving such to the SP, with the implication that SLP members would be free to support SP candidates, etc. De Leon was furious when Reinstein presented this proposal, and never forgave him for having made it.

An International Socialist Congress was scheduled to take place in Vienna, Aug. 22, 1914. When the world war broke out in July of that year, there were, naturally, grave doubts regarding the possibility of convening that Congress. Months before, the Party had elected two members to represent the Party, Arthur E. Reimer and Rudolph Katz, De Leon then being already too ill to enable him to serve. The Party had prepared elaborately for participation in the Congress, a report to the Congress having been prepared and printed in two languages (English and German), and quantities were shipped to Vienna. In view of the threatening war clouds, making it clear to the informed and observing Marxist SLP that war was almost certain to break out within a matter of months, the idea of sending the two elected representatives was abandoned, but Reinstein was insistent that someone should be sent, and offered himself as "candidate." In the spring of 1914, he wrote the National Secretary, Arnold Petersen, requesting him to ascertain from De Leon if he would approve of his (Reinstein's) going to Vienna. De Leon, then seriously ill in bed, told the National Secretary to tell Reinstein that he did not care to give a detailed opinion, but if the matter were to come to a vote, he (De Leon) would vote against electing Reinstein to go. That settled it. De Leon was, of course, motivated to express his view because of the outrageous proposal of Reinstein to, in effect, abandon the SLP to the SP jackals. The NEC [National Executive Committee] and the National Secretary fully shared the view of De Leon, and argued that to send a representative to the Congress who had declared that the Socialist Labor Party could not successfully function as a political party was no fit representative to plead the cause of the Party before an assembly of international Socialists, among whom, of course, would be the SP officialdom. Anyway, the war having broken out in earnest, the scheduled Vienna Congress was abandoned, or swallowed up in the mighty tides of the war.

In concluding our comments on this enlightening episode in Party history, it is not amiss to note that the contentions of the unity-mongers were ever larded with claims of De Leon's flexibility, in changing his position on this or that subject, etc. Of course, De Leon was flexible when flexibility was demanded, as any serious scientist must be, the crowning climax of which was reached in his immortal discovery of the Socialist Industrial Union form of government already hinted at in 1904, a concept of Socialism that flowed straight from the principles of Marx and Engels, but which they never succeeded in presenting, except in vague outlines. And the Party since De Leon's day has been equally "flexible" (if that's the word for it) whenever the occasion and circumstances called for it. But in respect of basic policies and tactics inseparably associated with, and flowing from basic principles, the Party has stood, and stands, firm, despite changing tides around it. As the 1921 "Manifesto" by the Party, addressed to the working class of America, put it in concluding its appeal to the American working class:

"And thus, amid the ebb and flood of the changing tides, now rising, now subsiding, now threatening to engulf, there stands, now as of yore and FIRM LIKE THE ROCK OF GIBRALTAR, the only political Movement of Labor in the land that HAS a message for the Working Class—the Socialist Labor Party of America."

No thinking person denies that the world of today—the world of capitalism—is in a state of chaos and all but complete anarchy. Surrounded by irrefutable evidence that this is so, capitalist spokesmen and politicians generally act and produce alleged cures as if this was something new, something wholly unexpected, despite the contrary evidence. The Socialist Labor Party has predicted for decades that precisely this situation would develop if capitalism were permitted to continue its self-destructing, predatory existence. Years ago the Party sounded the warning and watchword: "Socialism or catastrophe!" And Socialism having not yet materialized, catastrophe menacingly lurks around the corner.

The SLP agitators and educators were not, are not, prophets in the sense the Old Testament prophets were presumed to be. Our prognoses sprang from the fact of their being social scientists, taught and inspired by the two greatest social scientists of all time, Karl Marx and Daniel De Leon, whose labors have resulted in establishing social science—now appropriately designated Marxian science or, by extension, Marx-De Leon science, or just the science of Socialism—as a wholly dependable guide to mankind's search for solutions to the hitherto seemingly unsolvable problems now bedeviling men. In the words of De Leon, "... to Socialism is the task reserved of

solving one and all the problems that have come floating down the streams of time, and that have kept man in internecine strife with man." These two giant intellects foresaw not only the trend toward what we are witnessing today but actually described with uncanny prescience in details the social anarchy and impending dissolution of capitalism to which the system's underlying laws have brought it. But their forecasts and warnings are ignored by the reform tinkers who profess belief in the possibility of restoring a mortally sick society to glowing health.

"Sociologic theories," wrote De Leon, "are more or less quickly amenable to a touchstone that is the test of SCIENCE. What is the touchstone? It is prescience—the power to foresee. Not one of the sociologic theories advanced today but has lived long enough to be brought to the touch:—has it foreseen correctly?—has it not? If it has, it is scientific and true; if it has not, it is nonsense and false. If it has foreseen correctly, then may it be safely banked upon as a cardinal principle, like any mathematical theorem; if it has not foreseen correctly, then should it be discarded as a chimera." He then asked: "Brought to the touch, is Marxism scientific?" and proceeded to demonstrate conclusively that it is.

Both Marx and De Leon manifested their prescience on countless occasions in their works. Second only to Marx as a social scientist, De Leon forecast the possibility of the emergence of what he designated "Plutocratic Feudalism" (today generally referred to as "Industrial Feudalism"), arguing:

"It may be a question whether we are now under the capitalist system proper. Much may be said on the side of the theory that, if we are not yet under a different system we are fast tending toward it... A monopoly period is now surging upward to which the designation 'Plutocratic Feudalism' is the fitter term. It does not follow that, if the very Few are gathered on one side, and very Many are lumped on the other, the latter will necessarily swamp the former."

He went on to explain why this would be so: Visualizing the possible failure to organize the workers in revolutionary Socialist Industrial Unions, and pointing to the prospect of "periods of senseless (senseless because unrevolutionary, and therefore merely riotous) upheavals [that] may betide, the Many will sink to the depths of serfs, actual serfs of a plutocratic glebe."

Implicit in this scientific forecast is the warning against the senseless demonstrations and riots engaged in by many of the current war protesters and participants in the fatuous advocacy of so-called Black Power.

Now, take the concentration of capital analyzed by Marx at a time

when there were relatively few signs of such concentration. What he wrote then as a forecast is a solid fact today. Yet he was ridiculed by the capitalist political economy professors.

At a time when women engaged in production was a rarity, Marx predicted that "the more modern industry becomes developed, the more is the labor of men superseded by that of women." Who is there to deny this palpable fact of today?

Automation is one of the phenomena of our time, its introduction in industry resulting not only in greatly increasing unemployment, but also in intensifying the trend toward concentration of capital and elimination of small capital. Did this phenomenon come entirely unheralded? Apparently it did as far as capitalists apologists and spokesmen were concerned, but not to Marxian scientists. More than 100 years ago Marx anticipated the advent of automation, conjecturing it in much the same terms as of today. Thus he wrote in *Capital*:

"In Modern Industry the continued improvement of machinery, and the development of the automatic system, has an analogous effect . . . , that is, the effect of "striking down the laborer."

He further wrote in *Capital*:

"The collective machine, now an organized system of various kinds of single machines, becomes more and more perfect, the more the process as a whole becomes a continuous one, i.e., the less the raw material is interrupted in its passage from its first phase to its last; in other words, the more its passage from one phase to another is effected, not by the hand of one man, but by the machinery itself."

A process, as perfected today, known as cybernation.

Marx forecast the gradual disappearance of petty agriculture and the rise of what sometimes is called "factories in the field," which in consequence has resulted in the urbanization of the countryside and the drift of petty farmers and the younger generation to the cities. Ridiculed for these predictions, they are undeniable facts today.

The question has been asked: "Did Marx err?" No, he did not. Evolution and the whirligig of time have confirmed our estimate of him as a towering genius, gifted with the quality of prescience to an extraordinary degree.

On this fifth day of May, 1968, we commemorate the birth 150 years ago of this universal genius. The world has not been the same since he presented his great discoveries to the world. As his faithful co-worker and closest friend, Frederick Engels, summed it up at Marx's death:

"It is impossible to measure the loss of which the fighting Euro-

pean and American proletariat and historical science has lost [suffered] with the death of this man Marx discovered the special law of development of the present-day capitalist mode of production and of the bourgeois system of society which it has produced. With the discovery of surplus value light was suddenly shed on the darkness in which all other economists, both bourgeois and socialist, had been groping."

Concluding his simple eulogy, Engels said:

"His name will live through the centuries and so also will his work."

So it will, and future generations will bless his memory.

Were Marx to return to earth today he would be impressed with the extent of the fulfillment of the forecasts his genius had projected. But he would be deeply disappointed (as would be De Leon) to find that the scourge of capitalism still held man in thrall. For had his supposed disciples (outside the Socialist Labor Party) adhered to his principles and its stated and implied revolutionary working-class program, it is conceivable that the Socialist goal might have been reached decades ago. Be that as it may, those principles, that program, are today upheld and promoted by the Socialist Labor Party, and the goal is never lost sight of. In the jungle of capitalism today, the voice of Marx, supplemented and augmented by the voice of De Leon, rings challenging, loud and clear, above the pandemonium of the jungle, teaching and urging the workers to crown the work of Marx and De Leon with the apogee of social and economic evolution, Socialism and the universal Brotherhood of Man. Meanwhile, cleaving to principle, we of the SLP shall never tire until that goal has been reached.

In the memorable words of De Leon:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, the SLP moves by chart, its path lighted from above by a firmament where the North Star shines distinctly in its place, and is for never an instant confused with a rush light, or the fitful phosphorescence of a lightning bug."

The NEC in its report to the 1916 National Convention added to this:

"There lies land to the West—we must and we will sail on."

Fraternally submitted,

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

[signed] ARNOLD PETERSEN
National Secretary

APPENDIX

Platform of the Socialist Labor Party

"There is in the land a certain restlessness, a questioning."

The words were uttered by President Johnson in his January 17, 1968, State of the Union Message. They understated the case.

The American people in 1968 are assailed by foreboding and bitterness, frustration and fear, bewilderment and doubt. It is not the Socialist Labor Party alone that makes this severe assessment. Late in 1967, the National Committee for an Effective Congress issued a report in which it declared:

"At all levels of American life, people share similar fears, insecurities and gnawing doubts to such an intense degree that the country may in fact be suffering from a kind of national nervous breakdown."

Why? The Socialist Labor Party declares that when a sickness of this scope and intensity grips a nation it signifies that something very extraordinary is taking place, something far greater in a historical sense than division and dissent over a criminal and unconstitutional war, greater even than the crisis in race relations with its dire prospect of urban insurrection and, worse, of genocide.

The Socialist Labor Party declares that what this mortal national—really universal—sickness signifies is a vague and undefined, but mounting distrust in the ability of society *as presently organized* to cope with the problems that have arisen under it.

It is a serious error to imagine, as most people do, that revolutions occur when the mass of the people are starving and otherwise suffering intense deprivation. On the contrary, experience shows that revolutions occur when expectations of a better, more secure and more happy life are rising—and when these expectations are prevented from being fulfilled by outmoded laws and institutions. "Evils which are patiently endured when they seem inevitable," wrote de Tocqueville, "become intolerable when once the idea of escape from them is suggested."

Material justifications for rising expectations abound today on every hand. Since World War II industrial and scientific advances have been phenomenal. Output of the nation's industries is now more than twice as great as it was in 1950. In the past 10 years it has swollen an incredible 60 per cent.

Why, then, in the face of such material progress, do massive poverty and insecurity persist? What explains the dismal failure of President Johnson's "Great Society" reforms and the "war on poverty" on which billions of dollars have been spent without even beginning to solve a single problem?

The conspicuous failure of reforms, which raised the hopes of many so high when enacted, is not the least contributing reason for the despair, frustration and doubt that pervade this nation.

The Socialist Labor Party declares and proves that the maladies afflicting our society—maladies ranging from the

monetary inflation that erodes the living standards of all workers, combined with fierce capitalist resistance to increase wages to offset it, to the frightening surge of crime and violence, from deadly pollution of the natural environment to a crisis in race relations—have, not many causes, but *one* cause. This one cause is a social system—capitalism—that is outmoded, destructively competitive and profit-motivated. The Socialist Labor Party warns that if we keep this outmoded form of society, in which wealth is produced for the private profit of a few, not for the welfare and benefit of the people, catastrophic consequences, of which today's fears are a portent, are sure to follow.

The alternative to the rapidly disintegrating capitalist world is a world organized on a same foundation of social ownership and democratic administration of the industries and services, and production to satisfy human needs instead of for sale and private profit. The alternative to contradiction-ridden capitalism is a Socialist world of co-operation and human brotherhood.

In this hour of deadly peril when the whole world seems to be trembling on the very brink of chaos and cataclysmic disaster, the Socialist Labor Party appeals to all workers of all races, and to socially minded people generally, to reflect on the logic and downright common sense of a fundamental Socialist reconstruction of society.

Once society—which means all of us, collectively—gains control of the nation's productive facilities, once social production is planned and decisions respecting production are determined by human needs and human desires, poverty will be speedily eliminated. The nation's immensely productive resources will be mobilized, not to wage criminal

and brutalizing wars, not to enable a small class of capitalist parasites to accumulate mountains of wealth, but constructively to replace slum areas with parks and habitations fit for humans to live in, to purify our polluted rivers, lakes and air—in short, to repossess America from the vandal capitalist class and make of it the heaven on earth it can be and ought to be.

In our Socialist world, democracy will be a vibrant, meaningful reality, not the mask for economic despotism that it is today. There will be no such ridiculous thing as a political government based, as today, on wholly arbitrary and artificial geographical demarcations. (Some of our state boundaries were determined by a king's grant two and a half centuries ago; they are meaningless in the industrial age!) To administer social production in the interests of the people, we need an *industrial democracy*, a government based on industrial constituencies.

In Socialist society there will be neither masters nor slaves. We will vote where we work, electing our representatives to administrative and planning bodies on an ascending scale. But note this: The people whom we elect to administrative posts will have the privilege to serve, never the power to rule. For the same rank and file that elects them will have the power to recall and replace them at will.

The democratically elected administrators and planners of Socialism will concern themselves with such practical things as what and how much to produce to insure an uninterrupted flow of the good things of life in abundance; the number of working hours required

in the various industries; the erection of plants of production and educational, health and recreational facilities; the development of new technology; the planning and rebuilding of cities; the conservation of resources and the restoration of the natural environment and its preservation for all time.

All that stands in the way of this heaven on earth, a world in which all may enjoy good housing, abundant and nourishing food, the finest clothing, and the best of cultural, educational and recreational advantages, is the outmoded capitalist system.

This is no exaggeration. Nor merely a beautiful dream. It is based on the solid foundation of material facts. Automation, the supreme triumph of technology, has brought this heaven on earth within our reach. Yet, privately owned, as are all productive instruments under capitalism, automation is a blessing only to the capitalist owners; for workers it is a curse, a job-killer, which adds terrifying dimensions to worker insecurity.

Thus the question we face comes down to this: "*When the machine displaces man and does most of the work, who will own the machines and receive the rich dividends?*" (Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas.)

The United States Constitution, in effect, legalizes revolution. The right to alter or abolish the social system and form of government is implicit in Article V, the Constitution's amendment clause. The Socialist Labor Party proposes to the American workers—and by "workers" we mean all who perform useful labor, teachers, technicians, stenographers and musicians, as well as machinists, assembly-line workers, longshoremen and miners—that we use our huge ma-

ajorities at the polls to outlaw capitalist ownership and to make the means of social production the property of all the people collectively.

The Socialist Labor Party proposes further that we workers consolidate our economic forces on the industrial field in one integral Socialist Industrial Union to back up the Socialist ballot with an irresistible and invincible power capable of taking and holding the industries, locking out the outvoted capitalist class, and continuing social production without interruption.

Thomas Carlyle is credited with saying: "We must some day, at last and forever, cross the line between nonsense and common sense. And on that day we shall pass from class paternalism . . . to human brotherhood . . . ; from political government to industrial administration; from competition in individualism to individuality in cooperation; from war and despotism, in any form, to peace and liberty."

We must cross that line some day—why not now? Repudiate the Republican and Democratic parties, the political Siamese twins of capitalism—and reject also the self-styled "radicals," the so-called New Left and "liberals" whose platforms consist of measures to reform and patch up the poverty-breeding capitalist system, which is past reforming and patching. Study the Socialist Labor Party's Socialist Industrial Union program. Support the Socialist Labor Party's entire ticket at the polls. Unite with us to save humanity from catastrophe—and to set an example in free nonpolitical self-government for all mankind, in affluence and enduring peace.

Resolution on International Situation and International Socialism

The international situation in 1968 presents a picture of worldwide anarchy, war, threats of war and social disintegration.

Within the so-called Communist camp the monolithic unity that existed before Yugoslavia defected to become a Stalinist apostate in 1948 is now completely shattered. Each of the two bureaucratic State despotisms, Russia and China, continue to charge each other with the betrayal of "Marxism-Leninism." On the surface the shrill and acrimonious exchanges between Peking and Moscow appear to be evidence of deep ideological differences. The appearance is an illusion. What we are witnessing is not basically a controversy over interpretations of "Marxism-Leninism," but a stage in imperialist rivalry between two giant bureaucratic despotisms, each of which poses as the champion of the exploited and oppressed. Both have ambitions to expand their influence and power into the world's vast underdeveloped areas. The pretension of ideological differences is but a mask for conflicting material interests.

Simultaneously, economic conflicts among the Western capitalist nations have broken through the illusions created by the NATO alliances. The tremendous industrial expansion in Europe, especially in the Common Market nations, has compelled European countries to expand their foreign trade and to struggle for markets in areas pre-empted by American capitalism. De

Gaulle's France, which has withdrawn from the alliance, is especially aggressive, not only in pressing for markets in such areas as Latin America, but in expanding oil operations in Middle East areas long dominated by U.S. companies. Meanwhile there is mounting resistance in Europe (and even in Canada) to the economic penetrations of giant U.S. corporations, which now openly boast of being multinational concerns with subsidiaries in scores of non-Communist nations. For its part, U.S. economic imperialism has ruthlessly exploited this country's status as world banker, employing the inflated U.S. dollar as a weapon of imperialist predatory quests.

Thus, industrial and commercial rivalries between imperialist powers that twice in this century have culminated in world wars are once again sowing seeds that threaten new international conflicts.

The peril is aggravated by the precarious state of the international monetary structure. If this structure, in which the U.S. dollar is the keystone, should break up it would produce the chaos of an unprecedented international crisis. An intensification of economic nationalism would then be inevitable, sharpening the compulsions inherent in capitalism to seek abroad for expanded markets.

While economic and political rivalries *within* the camps of East and West grow fiercer, the rivalry *between* the East and West imperialisms continues

unabated, posing the continuing awesome threat of nuclear catastrophe.

The war in Vietnam is a manifestation of this rivalry. Had the United States not intervened in Vietnam, it is highly probable that the whole country, now divided into North Vietnam and South Vietnam, would be under "Communist" rule, and its mineral and food resources, etc., would be available to China, Russia and other so-called Communist nations.

However, it should not be imagined that United States aims in Vietnam are the negative ones of "stopping Communism." On the contrary, the goal of U.S. capitalism is to make the mineral riches, potential markets and capital-investment opportunities of all of Southeast Asia safe and secure for capitalism, especially for U.S. capitalism.

This war, fought for capitalist materialistic ends, has exposed the United States to the world as an aggressor as heartless and cruel as the Nazis, utterly devoid of moral conscience.

That Vietnam might erupt into world war is an ever-present danger. But it is by no means the only source of such danger. In the Middle East the Arab-Israeli war is virtually certain to resume, this time on a new and more destructive level of violence. If prolonged, it would almost inevitably involve the United States and Soviet Russia. Israel and her Arab neighbors obviously have frontier disputes, but overshadowing these is the East-West rivalry for Middle East oil and other resources. The introduction of a large Soviet naval fleet into the Mediterranean, formerly patrolled only by the United States Third Fleet, is plainly a challenge to U.S. su-

premacy in the area.

The war in Vietnam, the simmering Middle East conflict and scattered wars, military coups, anti-imperialist demonstrations, and other outbreaks of violence in widely separated areas of the world are evidence of the instability of class rule. Many of the minor eruptions result from the breakup of the colonial empires, and the creation of a great number of so-called "new nations." The term "nations" is a misnomer—these are new *States*, not new nations. They are political units, more or less arbitrarily constituted, with none of the traditions of nationality. At this stage of general capitalist disintegration, each of these new States must inevitably fall into the orbit of one imperialist camp or the other.

The dangers that threaten the world today are the logical consequences of class rule. The material and economic strife between the East and West, as well as within both camps, is certain to become more intense, and the threat of all-out war—thermonuclear war—will increase. There can be no real and lasting peace until class-divided societies, in both East and West, are replaced by a social system that is fully compatible with the industrial realities of the world in which we live. Only scientific Marxian Socialism can create such an international society.

It is one of the tragedies of this crucial hour, when class rule is ripping apart at the seams in many places, that there is no genuine Socialist International that could perform the vital function of disseminating the principles of scientific Socialism among the workers of the world. The one bright spot is

the existence of the Socialist Labor Parties of America, Australia, Canada and Great Britain. Founded upon the principles of Marx, Engels and De Leon, the Socialist Labor Parties alone offer a workable program whereby the workers of the world can establish the long-yearned-for international Brotherhood of Man that technological development makes possible. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Socialist Labor Party of America in Convention assembled on this 6th day of May, 1968, reaffirms its allegiance to the cause of international Socialism. And be it further

Resolved, That we restate our uncompromising acceptance of the fact and implication of the class struggle, and repeat our condemnation of the fraudulent internationalism espoused by the bureaucratic despotisms of both Russia and China, and by the Western imperialist nations. And be it further

Resolution on Urban Crises and Social Reaction

A report on the racial question states: "The relation of whites and Negroes in the United States is our most grave and perplexing domestic problem."

Its analysis, studded with convincing argument and documentation, supports this conclusion. To lessen the danger of more violence it urges that measures be taken to assure urban Negroes jobs, open housing, a ban on discrimination by unions, better education and more police protection. It strongly condemns

Resolved, That in keeping with the sober view that the only hope of the world lies in the still divided, still unclassconscious American working class, we pledge ourselves to renewed and increased efforts to awaken the workers to the need to organize as a class on the political field under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party to demand an end of class rule, and to organize on the industrial field into Socialist Industrial Unions to establish the Socialist Commonwealth, thereby setting the example for the workers of all the nations. And be it finally.

Resolved, That the Socialist Labor Party of America extend fraternal greeting to the Socialist Labor Parties in Canada, Great Britain and Australia, and to the exploited workers everywhere, in renewed affirmation of international working-class solidarity and unfaltering adherence to the ideals and principles of Socialism—the universal Brotherhood of Man.

militant black and white racism as well as separatism. It declares that the times are filled with peril for the nation and that more violence is inevitable if black and white Americans do not work to understand each other.

No, the excerpt above is not from the 1968 report of President Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders. It is from an impressively documented 1922 report by a Chicago commission on the 1919 Chicago race riot that left 38 dead, 537 injured and

more than 1,000 homeless.

The warning contained in the Chicago report was ignored. Today, the crisis in race relations and the danger of violence, arson and anarchy facing the nation are far, far greater in both scope and intensity than they were in 1919. Nevertheless, it takes no prophetic genius to foresee the futility of the President's commission's warning. As Dr. Kenneth B. Clark, author of "Dark Ghetto," told the commission:

"I must in candor say to you members of this commission—it is a kind of Alice in Wonderland—with the same moving picture rehash over and over again, the same analysis, the same recommendations and the same inaction."

Instead of undertaking multibillion-dollar remedial efforts to rehabilitate the ghettos (which, in any case would fail to expunge race prejudice, which is engendered by a competitive society of class rule), U.S. capitalism adopts repressive measures such as stockpiling special antiriot weapons for the police and training National Guardsmen for suppressing ghetto revolts.

The truth is that capitalism, under which we have developed industrial and scientific forces that no previous epoch in human history could have even dreamed of, cannot solve the crises it has itself created. On the contrary, the very laws that are at the heart of the capitalist system, the incentives and motivations behind its economic activities, insure that these crises will worsen.

One of the most revealing facts of our time is this: Despite the soaring productivity of labor and the longest sustained period of "prosperity" in America's history, the relief rolls of every major city are also soaring.

Nor is it a difficult task to trace the forces generating social decay back to the

system's profit incentive or greed motivation.

To insure itself a pool of cheap and unresisting labor for menial tasks and field work, the Southern ruling class decades ago enacted Jim Crow segregation laws. One of the bitter fruits of these laws was inferior education for Negro workers, adequate for cotton picking, but not for most industrial occupations.

These were the Negro workers who migrated to urban centers by the hundreds of thousands in recent years. The Southern agricultural capitalists, in their hunger for ever higher profits, had displaced them with machines and cast them adrift.

Simultaneously, again to satisfy profit hunger, capitalists automated other jobs that the poorly educated workers could have filled. It was then that relief rolls swelled rapidly, and the alums spread in the "central" cities while simultaneously both skilled white workers and industrial installations in which they were employed moved to the suburbs.

The hideous conditions of life in the slums, the soul-searing humiliations that are the everyday punishment inflicted on Negro workers and workers of other racial minorities, the endless frustrations that defeat the strongest wills of black workers caught in the racial dead ends called ghettos—these are facts that need no documentation here. What is needed here is to emphasize that ghetto revolts are the logical consequence of capitalism's inability to change or even ameliorate these conditions.

Against these conditions, some militant young Negroes call for the destruction of the capitalistic system by means of guerrilla warfare. They call on American Negroes to take arms and fight, from New York to California,

from Canada to Mexico. They argue that only through armed struggle can Negroes put an end to the horrible situation they [Negroes] live in.

They are dead wrong. Armed insurrection and urban guerrilla warfare would only provoke the most violent response of which heartless and reactionary capitalism is capable. Even now, military tacticians are mapping campaigns, planning for the war in the alleys, streets, cellars, sewers and rooftops they are convinced the Army will be called upon to wage against the ghettos. On the other side of the terrible potential events there lies the prospect thoughtful blacks discuss endlessly—the dread prospect of attempted genocide.

Not only would armed insurrection provoke a military response a hundred times more violent, it would also give the ruling class of this country the pretext and opportunity to drop the mask of democracy and adopt on the political field the despotism that prevails in capitalist industry. Armed insurrection is an open invitation to fascist dictatorship.

A revolution means a complete change, and it need not be accompanied by violence. For a successful revolution there must be a constructive phase when new institutions are established to replace those that are dismantled. In an age of great technological and economic complexity such as the present one, when prolonged economic paralysis can have devastating consequences to great masses of people, especially to the masses crowded into the great urban centers, this constructive phase of the revolution must be carefully planned and prepared for.

Of the all-important constructive phase so vital to the success of a revolution, advocates of violence in the so-

called Black Power movement, are obviously oblivious. Destruction is for them the end-all and be-all of what they consider "revolution"—that is, insurrection in fact.

A great social historian, Henry Thomas Buckle, has succinctly summed up the difference between insurrection and revolution. "Insurrections," he wrote 100 years ago, "are generally wrong; revolutions are always right. An insurrection is too often the mad and passionate effort of ignorant persons who are impatient under some immediate injury, and never stop to investigate its remote and general causes. But a revolution . . . is a splendid and imposing spectacle, because to the moral quality of indignation produced by the presence of evil, it adds the intellectual qualities of foresight and combination; and uniting in the same act some of the highest properties of our nature it achieves a double purpose, not only punishing the oppressor but also relieving the oppressed."

This remarkable analysis of insurrection and revolution, which could have been written for today, applies not only to the suggested "black revolution," but particularly to those preparing and organizing for the pending peaceful social revolution wherein the entire working class, black and white, must be the active participants and architects of the new social order, the Socialist Industrial Commonwealth.

With all the sympathy that it is possible for a humane mankind to summon for the suffering, anguish and despair of the black victims of cannibalistic capitalism, with enlightened understanding of their anger and bitterness and complete agreement that their anger and bitterness are justified, the Socialist Labor Party nevertheless urges all who are inclined to listen to the advocates of violence to reflect, and to reflect soberly. No one should doubt that such a nationwide insurrection as they

propose would cause enormous damage and bloodshed. But, as in Watts, Detroit, Newark, Washington, Pittsburgh, Chicago and other cities, that damage will be inflicted on the ghettos themselves. And it will be inflicted, not only by the insurrectionists, but also by the tanks and cannon and flamethrowers of the minions of capitalist law, many of whom are ready, willing and eager to wage war on those whom they fear and hate.

Revolution is absolutely necessary if the horrible conditions of ghetto life, and all the other problems of our cities and of society are to be ended. But such a revolution cannot be consummated by black people alone. Indeed, it can only be consummated by the working class.

This follows because it is only the working class (black and white, skilled and unskilled) that can complete the all-important constructive phase of reconstructing society on Socialist lines. Only the workers can take, hold and operate the industries. Only the workers, organized in accord with

the program of the Socialist Labor Party, politically and into one integral Socialist Industrial Union, can avert a period of economic paralysis and chaos and raise the dome of the Socialist Industrial Republic of Labor. And they will do it, not with guns, but with the ballot backed up by the economic might of their industrially organized forces.

In Socialist society we shall be able to enjoy the material well-being our productive capability makes possible. We shall be secure, healthy and happy human beings living in peace, harmony and freedom, in marked contrast to the capitalist jungle of strife, misery and insecurity in which we live today.

Black and white workers alike must face the fact that the task confronting them is to organize their political and economic power—not to demand merely the amelioration of the horrible conditions of ghetto life, but to demand the abolition of the capitalist system of wage slavery, and to effect an orderly Socialist Reconstruction of Society.

Resolution on Economic Organization of the Working Class

The Twenty-Seventh National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party of America, in session in the City of New York, May 6, 1968, reaffirms the Party's previous stand on the question of the economic organization of the working class and declares:

Every political upheaval arises from economic undercurrents; every economic convulsion in class society of necessity has its political reflex and expression. The true movement of labor, therefore, must seek expression on the economic as well as on the

political field. The political party of labor must proclaim the goal of working-class emancipation; the economic organization of labor organizes labor's might—labor's power—to back up the political proclamation and provides the framework for an industrial union administration to replace the present capitalist political State.

The political party of labor exists. It is the Socialist Labor Party of America—the party with but one plank in its platform, the unconditional surrender of capitalism.

The economic organization of labor, the kind of organization required to back up the demand for the unconditional surrender of capitalism, does not exist. It must be organized.

The existing unions—AFL-CIO and kindred organizations—have served, and continue to serve, capitalism effectively. A number of union leaders have admitted this, but none more fully than an international president of the Commercial Telegraphers Union, who said to the 13th regular convention of that body: "The goal of the SLP is the 'Workers' Industrial Republic' . . . and the road to that objective remains securely blocked as long as the American Federation of Labor and its affiliates are maintained intact." But the existing unions are not being maintained intact. Union membership, both in absolute terms and as a percentage of the rising work force, is slipping. More and more contracts are being rejected by the rank and file. In the language of the *Wall Street Journal*, "The real issue facing the AFL-CIO . . . will be its own survival."

The disintegration of existing procapitalist unions foreshadows the building of a new union, for, as Daniel De Leon, the American Marxist, pointed out, the union movement will appear and reappear and keep on reappearing. But time is short. The race between Socialist education and capitalist disintegration does not have very far to go. The working class cannot afford to permit itself to be used to set up another caricature of unionism as was done some 30 years ago when the CIO was organized. This time, and soon, it must make certain that a true working-class union is or-

ganized, a class union, based on the class struggle and with Socialism as its goal.

The urgency of the situation is unmistakable. The great responsibility of the Socialist Labor Party, the carrier of the idea of Socialist Industrial Unionism, was never greater. We mean to discharge that responsibility by an unprecedented intensification of our efforts to bring the program of Socialist Industrial Unionism to the working class of America. Proceeding from the Marxist premise that the emancipation of the working class must be the class-conscious act of the workers themselves, we conclude that the workers alone can save civilization and humanity from possible total destruction. This is not a time for parades and fruitless demonstrations. This is the hour for serious and well-planned action. The workers must guard against being victimized by advocates of "Black Power" as well as by those who advocate "White Power." The basis of all power is economic. Right now that power is in the hands of the capitalist class by virtue of its ownership and control of the land and tools of production, and by its control of the political State which shields that ownership. The power of the working class is latent. It lies in the fact that the workers and workers alone operate the nation's industries. By organizing politically to declare capitalist ownership terminated and by organizing into Socialist Industrial Unions to take over the land and tools of production, at the signal of the political victory, in the name of society as a whole, the economic power, now latent, would become a fact—a fact that would give the organized producers of the nation the

power, the nonviolent force with which to meet any opposition by the outvoted dispossessed capitalist class.

Workers of America, move now to organize the Socialist Industrial Union to take, hold and operate industry for the benefit of all society. This is the

only "peace resolution" that has teeth in it. This is the only way that you can bring into being the power you need. Move now to build that true economic organization of labor. Then, in the fullness of time, we shall and *will* proclaim the Socialist Industrial Republic of Free and Emancipated Labor.

SLP VOTE FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT, Nov. 5, 1968

Arizona	75
California (write-in)	341
Colorado	3,016
Connecticut (write-in; no vote reported)	
Delaware (write-in; no vote reported)	
Florida (write-in; no vote reported)	
Illinois	13,878
Indiana (write-in; no vote reported)	
Iowa	241
Kansas (write-in; no vote reported)	
Kentucky (write-in; no vote reported)	
Massachusetts	6,180
Michigan	1,762
Minnesota	285
Missouri (write-in; no vote reported)	
Montana (write-in; no vote reported)	
New Jersey	6,784
New Mexico (write-in; no vote reported)	
New York	8,432
Ohio	120
Oregon (write-in; no vote reported)	
Pennsylvania	4,977
Virginia	4,671
Washington	488
Wisconsin	1,338
	52,588

VOTE FOR
PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES OF THE
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

Year	Presidential Candidate	Vice Presidential Candidate	Vote Reported	No. of States on ballot
1892	Simon Wing, Mass.	Chas. H. Matchett, N.Y.	21,173	5
1896	Chas. H. Matchett, N.Y.	Matthew Maguire, N.J.	36,367	20
1900	Jos. F. Malleney, Mass.	Valentine Remmel, Pa.	33,382	22
1904	Chas. H. Corrogan, N.Y.	William W. Cox, Ill.	33,510	19
1908	August Gilhaus, N.Y.	Donald L. Munro, Va.	14,029	15
1912	Arthur E. Reimer, Mass.	August Gilhaus, N.Y.	29,213	20
1916	Arthur E. Reimer, Mass.	Caleb Harrison, Ill.	14,670	17
1920	Wm. W. Cox, Missouri	August Gilhaus, N.Y.	30,513	14
1924	Frank T. Johns, Ore.	Verne L. Reynolds, Md.	33,883	19
1928	Verne L. Reynolds, Mich.	Jeremiah D. Crowley, N.Y.	21,590	19
1932	Verne L. Reynolds, N.Y.	John W. Aiken, Mass.	34,038	19
1936	John W. Aiken, Mass.	Emil F. Teichert, N.Y.	12,788	18
1940	John W. Aiken, Mass.	Aaron M. Orange, N.Y.	14,883	14
1944	Edward A. Teichert, Pa.	Arla A. Albaugh, Ohio	45,336	15
1948	Edward A. Teichert, Pa.	Stephen Emery, N.Y.	29,272	22
1952	Eric Hass, N.Y.	Stephen Emery, N.Y.	30,426	23
1956	Eric Hass, N.Y.	Georgia Cozzini, Wis.	44,547	14
1960	Eric Hass, N.Y.	Georgia Cozzini, Wis.	47,647	15
1964	Eric Hass, N.Y.	Henning A. Blomen, Mass.	45,319	16
1968	Henning A. Blomen, Mass.	George S. Taylor, Penn	52,588	18

¹ Write-in vote campaigns were conducted in several states where SLP was not on ballot. Most of these states, however, failed to report write-in votes cast; others were incomplete.

² Nominee originally was Morrie R. Preston.

³ Nominee originally was Frank T. Johns, who was drowned while trying to rescue a child.



No. 146